Feature *The Gateway* burns through the rhetoric with our annual Election Dissection and Poster Slam • **Inside**



March 7th, 2012 ▪ Issue No. 24 ▪ Volume 102

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

SMOKING **BAN**

New policy may restrict smoking on campus

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

Students who smoke may find themselves limited to lighting up only on designated areas of campus, after Students' Council passed the first reading of a smoking policy last Tuesday.

The policy, which passed almost unanimously, would not be enforceable unless the Students' Union advocated to the Board of Governors, who would then have to pass the policy. The policy indicates that students will be restricted to "appropriate, health-promoting" areas of campus, leading to some contention among councillors who smoke and those who feel this is an infringement on the rights of students.

"What the policy intends is to have clean air, so there will be designated smoking zones and then areas where there won't be smoking," explained science councillor Kim Ferguson. "However, in the other sense, I feel like if (students) read political policies, they would be reading that the SU doesn't believe they should smoke where the city and province tells them they should be able to smoke."

PLEASE SEE **SMOKING** ◆ PAGE 6
ALSO SEE **OPINION** ◆ PAGE 13

ATHLETICS **CUTBACKS**

Athletics axes field hockey

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

After a hastily-called meeting, the Pandas field hockey players and coaches were informed last Thursday night that they are no longer part of a U of A funded team.

Alberta athletics director, Dr. Ian Reade — who stepped into the job last April after a hiatus from holding the same title from 1993-2001 — announced the decision to a room full of shocked athletes who never imagined that this last-minute meeting would signal the end of their U of A athletic careers.

"To be completely honest I've always been very proud to go to the U of A and be a Pandas athlete. However, I feel like I was definitely let down and betrayed," said Kincso Santha, a midfielder and forward who's been playing with the team for four years. "We believe that with everything we've sacrificed academically and with our social life and personal lives that we deserved more of a notice."

PLEASE SEE **HOCKEY** ◆ PAGE 32
ALSO SEE **COMMENTARY** ◆ PAGE 33



MATT HIRJI

Candidates deliver final speeches at Horowitz

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

The final forum for the Students' Union elections came to a close on Monday at the Myer Horowitz theatre, which saw nearly 200 students in attendance at one point, a notable improvement from last year's crowd of 60.

The candidates all had the opportunity to present their platforms and cross-examine their opponents, after which there was a general question period so students in the audience could ask questions. The forum culminated in the presidential debate, where the candidates gave vastly different platforms, beginning with candidate Colten Yamagishi.

"I want to be the president so I can be the voice of the students," Yamagishi said. "I want to be your president so I can tackle big issues, like fee increases and tuition hike. I am the best candidate for this position, not just because I care, but because I have the most experience, the most passion, and the most dedication to your Students' Union."

Farid Iskandar's platform discussed his plans for a Student Academic Centre and his desire to phase out the CoSSS fee, which was followed by a speech by Adi Rao concerning the need for social justice on campus and the unfairness of cuts to the institution.

PLEASE SEE **HOROWITZ** ◆ PAGE 5

THE gateway

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colophon

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contributors

Rachel Singer, Ravanne Lawday, Scott Fenwick, Alana Willerton, Zaineb Hussein, Atta Almasi, Andrew Jeffrey, Matt Hirji, Tyler Hein, Darcy Ropchan, Alexander Sorochan, Josh Schmaltz, Adrian Lahola-Chomiak, Julianna Damer, Sam Brooks, Chris Gee, Charlotte Forss, Katherine Speur, Tom Blazejewicz, Richard LaRose, Peggy Jankovic, Cody Gretzinger, Sam Brooks, Lance Mudryk, Evan Mudryk, Lauren Alston, Andrew Cowie, Anthony Goertz, Yifeng Liu

Visiting editor talks technology in education

Rachel Singer
NEWS STAFF

The internet is changing science education and communication in a remarkable way, according to a *Scientific American* magazine editor visiting the U of A this week.

As part of the U of A's Distinguished Visitor Program, Bora Zivkovic will be delivering various talks on implementing technology in science education, including how to communicate research through social media, and navigating the benefits and pitfalls of scientific interaction online.

Zivkovic says the focus of his trip is to get people to reconsider science education and to promote science online.

"The World Wide Web is disrupting technology, it's disrupting a lot of old industries from newspapers, to music, to movies, and it's definitely disrupting the various industries that are in some ways related to science," Zivkovic says. "In many ways, this disruption is a bad word. I mean, it sounds like destruction, but it is really opening up possibilities of doing things better than we could do in the past."

By using the web to its full potential, Zivkovic says it will make it easier to be a scientist or researcher, as it will be easier to find collaborates, network with other researchers, and share and analyze data.

"The web provides not just a source of information," Zivkovic says, "but tools for teaching and learning in a more active or interactive way than just the teacher being the fountain of knowledge and the students being vessels for accepting information, memorizing it, and then regurgitating it back on a test."

According to Zivkovic, "web hygiene" needs to be taught to students in order for them to learn how to perform a good search and use the web to their advantage.

"The whole concept of education is changing with the web because there is this whole enormous resource, not just a source of information, but also a place where students can do stuff. And by doing stuff, they are going to learn and sometimes even contribute new knowledge," Zivkovic says.

Zivkovic also wants to see more professors embrace technology and the web in their classes.

"If you go into a classroom and tell students to shut off all their connections to the web they feel fearful," he says. "Instead of shutting off (the connections) and hoping they will pay attention to you for 45 minutes, this is actually a resource."

Zivkovic's work at *Scientific American* magazine has focused on putting together a science blogging network, which he successfully launched in July. He also monitors the network, assists the bloggers and edits pieces for the network's guest blog and expeditions blog. Zivkovic also his own blog called "Blog Around the Clock."

A group of U of A professors is sponsoring Zivkovic's trip. His lectures will take place daily until Friday in various U of A buildings.





BIG STRIKES BACK SU President joke candidate Big Notorious and his team paid *The Gateway*'s opinion editor a surprise visit, showering him with Monopoly money. DAN MCKECHNIE

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Katelyn Hoffart + Julianna Damer**

As you may have heard, voting for the Students' Union elections takes place March 7 and 8.

WE ASKED...

Are you voting?



Gillian Williams ARTS I

"Maybe. Depends if I remember."



Charan Gill SCIENCE I

"I'll be voting because we go to school here, we spend a lot of time here, and we might as well vote and make the school what we want it to be."

Eli Schrader PHYS. ED IV

"I'm not voting because this is my last semester. I don't want to make any choices for people when I'm not going to be here next year."





Aaron Fern ARTS III

"Probably. It's online and it's just really easy."

THE gateway

WE'RE HIRING Line Editors

The Gateway is accepting applications for the following Line Editor positions for the 2012/13 publishing year:

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- **Managing Editor ($1,876.42/month)**
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- **Sports Editor ($1,501.66/month)**
- **Photo Editor ($1,501.66/month)**

PART TIME
- **Design & Production Editor ($961.62/month)**
- **Staff Reporter ($750.83/month)**
- **Technical Support Staff ($350/month)**

**For complete job descriptions visit thegatewayonline.ca/hiring*

The term runs from May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013. The full-time paid portion of the job, at the salaries listed above, will run from mid-August, 2012 to the end of April 2013. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three summer issues for an honorarium of $118.20 per issue.

*Applicants may not apply for more than two line editor positions without special permission of the line editor selection committee.**

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and portfolio to Gateway Business Manager Ashleigh Brown (780) 492-6669 | biz@gateway.ualberta.ca, | Suite 3-04, Students' Union Building

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews.

Application deadline is March 9, 2012 at 4pm.

Protesters removed from honorary degree ceremony

April Hudson & Ravanne Lawday
NEWS STAFF



JULIANNA DAMER

Shouting protesters were forcibly escorted out of a University of Alberta honorary degree ceremony March 1 after taking contention with one of the degree recipients.

The ceremony recognized three individuals whose work in the area of water research and management stood out in the eyes of the university.

Numerous protesters sat in on the ceremony, waiting quietly until Nestlé chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe was introduced before booing loudly and directing cries of "shame on you" towards him and university administrators.

After politely asking the protesters to leave, Chancellor Linda Hughes requested security to remove them.

"This is not what the University of Alberta is about," Hughes told the audience. "We're about open debate and discussion."

Brabeck-Letmathe was introduced by David Percy, a professor in the Faculty of Law.

"Peter Brabeck-Letmathe has spent a great deal of his life trying to ensure water supply to almost three billion people worldwide who have no access or limited access to water," Percy said.

"(He is) an advocate of the free provision of water for all basic human needs, and the operation of water markets only after those needs have been satisfied."

But protesters took issue with the U of A's decision to honour Brabeck-Letmathe, who has drawn a firestorm of criticism due to his ties with Nestlé. The corporation has been mired in controversy for years over child labour issues and the promotion of infant formula in developing countries.

More than 100 students, professors and community members gathered outside the Timms Centre for an hour-long protest that preceded the ceremony.

"It was completely unnecessary to bestow an honorary doctorate upon Mr. Brabeck-Letmathe in order to hear his views (on water)," said political science professor Laurie Adkin to protesters, addressing allegations that the honorary degree was the only way to get Brabeck-Letmathe to visit Alberta.

Adkin acknowledged that some groups that currently provide research funding to the U of A are "worse" than Nestlé in terms of their practices, but she did not further specify.

"Nestlé is being honoured for its contribution to a public interest — water regulation — that it has been accused of undermining," Adkin said.

Adkin noted the public debate sparked by the honorary degree is not only about approaches to water regulation, but also about which interests the university has a mission to serve.

Other students and protesters expressed their "embarrassment" over the U of A's decision, claiming that Brabeck-Letmathe and Nestlé are directly responsible for more than 600,000 infant deaths per year.

Some of the protesters returned to sit in on the discussion panel following the ceremony, but did not protest further.

Students' Union new food policy emphasizes healthy options

Scott Fenwick
NEWS STAFF ▪ @SCOTTFENWICK

Improving the quality, cost and selection of food sold at the University of Alberta is the focus of a policy approved by the Students' Union last week.

The policy comes as a result of a North American-wide survey, which found that U of A students aren't eating as healthy as they would like to. It also reported that students feel nutritious food sold on campus is too expensive

"Ensuring that food is high quality and affordable for students is one of the most important things a university can do," said Emerson Csorba, the SU's vice-president (academic), who also sits on the SU's Policy Committee.

"Students are busy, and they're crunched for time. Because of that, we need to make sure that they're eating as healthy as possible, just so that they have the energy to be on top of their game and their studies."

The survey, published in early 2011 by the Maryland-based American College Health Association, found that 85 per cent of U of A students believe that they don't eat enough fruits and vegetables.

It also found that 55 per cent of students disagreed with the statement that there are healthy, affordable food options on campus.

Some of the food policy's main points include having the university increase the availability and diversity of healthy food and drink options and providing better access to nutritional information.

> **"Ensuring that food is high quality and affordable for students is one of the most important things a university can do.**
>
> EMERSON CSORBA
> SU VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

Nikki Way, project co-ordinator for the Sustainable Food Initiative, helped write the document, and said food retailers at the U of A often have a problem communicating the nutritional value of the food they sell. Way said food service staff are rarely able to help students who are vegetarian, vegan or celiac in avoiding items with meat or gluten.

She noted that the SU needs to work with the university administration to increase the diversity of food available. The large proportion of fast food options currently on campus is also a concern for Way.

"These are problems that we need to address. We can't just keep feeding people Tim Hortons and Starbucks and SubMart. We need to give a diversity of food to students.

"Yes, there are salad options. However, if you're eating on campus every day, a salad — it isn't diverse."

Another part of the draft policy is to have the SU encouraging the sale of organic, local and certified fair trade items on campus. Csorba said this was something many members on the Policy Committee felt strongly about. However, emphasis will remain on the price and quality of food.

"Those are the big factors that we want to ensure exist first, and then focus on fair trade, organic, local — something that's more secondary," Csorba said.

The policy calls for having more retailers allow OneCards as a payment method. It would expand students' choices on how to spend their money because meal plan holders use the OneCard to debit money from their account.

The SU also plans to bring their own food operations in line with its policy document over the summer.

Csorba said he expects the SU to have nutritional labelling at its L'Express store by September. Room at the Top has already expanded its menu to include healthier options.

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MATT HIRJI

Faculty of Education to accept incoming high school students

Alana Willerton
NEWS STAFF ▪ @ALANAWILLERTON

Students applying to the Faculty of Education will be able to do so directly out of high school next year instead of spending a year in general studies.

Up until now, students pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree were required to spend their first year in general studies before applying to the Faculty of Education. But due to a proposal brought forth by Dean of Education Fern Snart, the faculty has reverted to a four-year program format, allowing high school students to apply in their first year instead.

Snart said the Bachelor of Education was originally a four-year degree until the mid-90s, when budget cuts abruptly forced the faculty to take on the "1 + 3 year model."

"We consider it regaining year one," Snart said. "In that period of budget cuts, as a result of a number of changes in different faculties on campus, we needed to go down to a 1 + 3 year model.

"It was not by choice, and therefore we've been hoping since then that there would come a time where we could have year one incorporated back into the program. For us, this is really a sense of back to normal."

In several instances, the new four-year degree format echoes aspects from previous years. The program will maintain its transfer option to enable students from colleges and other faculties to access the program, and will also be retaining its after-degree program, which is a two-year Bachelor of Education.

However, the degree will now feature mandatory education courses during year one in an effort to pull students towards a specialization from the start. There will also be added coursework available that focuses particularly on Aboriginal education.

Despite the Bachelor of Education degree's new features, some students have expressed concerns over the effect it may have on increased admissions, especially since graduates have struggled to find work following graduation.

Nicole Potter, who has been a student for four years and is currently in the second year of her Education degree at the U of A, disagrees with the faculty's decision to allow students to apply to the Faculty of Education directly out of high school, citing life and university experiences as necessities for successfully completing the program.

"I think you need to pay your dues to get into Education," Potter said. "There is already a huge struggle for employment with Education graduates. Letting more students in immediately means they are not going to go through a year of struggle and trying to decide what to do with their life, and perhaps deciding education is not right for them. Instead, they'll slip into Education."

But because the Faculty of Education is an enrollment-managed faculty with an admitting average of a 3.0 GPA, Snart said, there wouldn't be an increase in admittance rates.

Nevertheless, she admitted that the program could become more competitive with the addition of first-year students.

As for employment, Snart acknowledged the difficulties graduates of the faculty have had in the past, but was confident that more teaching positions would become available in the coming years.

"In terms of employment, it is always a concern for any profession because there is a real ebb and flow with things like retirements and students who take positions out of the province or out of the country," Snart said.

"But workforce planning with Alberta Education is doing excellent work in predicting teacher retirements, and within the next two or three years, I believe there really will be another resurgence and need for teachers in the province.

"Without question it's something that we are and should be concerned about," Snart added, "but our enrollment management target is set by the university, so it is something that we do not have full control of."

Business and pharmaceutical sciences will remain the only U of A faculties that require students to complete a year of general studies before applying.

campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY **Alex Migdal**

DRUNKARD ON CAMPUS

On Feb. 17, University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) officers observed an unaffiliated intoxicated female at Campus St. Jean. The female had an extensive criminal history. UAPS issued a written trespass notice, and directed her off campus.

STAIRWELL TO DRUNK

On Feb. 22, UAPS received a report of a suspicious male possibly intoxicated in the stairwell of HUB Mall. UAPS attended the area, but the male was gone on arrival.

SWEET DREAMS

UAPS observed a male sleeping inside a U of A building on Feb. 22. The male had been previously dealt with by UAPS for an altercation. UAPS issued a written trespass notice, and the male was directed off campus.

DISPLAY OF THEFT

On Feb. 23, UAPS received a report that a laptop had been stolen from Rutherford Library. UAPS attended the area and identified a suspect. A male had possession of the stolen laptop. The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) was contacted to attend, and the male was subsequently arrested for possession of stolen property.

FOOTLONG CRAVING

On Feb. 27, UAPS received a report of a suspicious unaffiliated male attempting to reach into a Subway restaurant.

The male had been previously dealt with by UAPS. Officers issued the male a written notice of trespassing, and directed him off campus.

BOHEMIAN NAPSODY

UAPS received a report on March 3 of a male sleeping inside a U of A building. The male had previously been dealt with by UAPS. The male had previously trespassed, and UAPS issued the male another ticket for trespassing.

Presidential candidates debate SU's relations with U of A

HOROWITZ • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Too long, we have been paying for mistakes we did not make — and it is time for that to stop," Rao proclaimed. "I think that it's time we stood up and told the government and the administration exactly what it is that we want."

During the cross-examination, Iskandar asked his opponents what they would do differently from the past two presidents and VPs (External) concerning the SU's push for a referendum on future mandatory non-instructional fees.

"We need to move on and talk to the government," Yamagishi replied.

"We need to make sure the government enforces the tuition cap so education is attainable to all students who want to go to post-secondary in Alberta."

> **"I think we've been so worried about burning bridges at this university that we've forgotten to build more."**
>
> ADI RAO
> SU PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Rao, on the other hand, said there was only one reason why the SU failed to get this referendum.

"I think we've been so worried about burning bridges at this university that we've forgotten to build more," Rao said. "My proposal is to get out there and tell the university exactly what we want. Go out there with picket signs, every day if we have to."

Yamagishi followed this by asking a question of his own concerning what his opponents thought about the role of conflict in university relations.

Rao referred to his answer to Iskandar's question, telling the audience that such relationships have an expiry date, which has come due, in his opinion. Iskandar replied that the last protest the Students' Union had was over the CoSSS fee in 2010.

"There is a time and place for protest — just not every single year," Iskandar said. "Having protests for the sake of protest kills the message that we want."

During the Vice-President (Operations and Finance) debate, incumbent Andy Cheema faced off against his three competitors by asking for their thoughts on asking plebiscite questions at no cost in the SU's annual paperless survey.

All three of his opponents reluctantly agreed that this was the best option, although they all wanted to keep themselves open to other possibilities as well.

"I can't believe I'm up here campaigning for someone else," Murtaza Jamaly laughed. "But I love technology. Paperless is the way to go, so that would definitely be the way. I agree."

During the Vice-President (Academic) debate, candidate Kelsey Mills asked her opponents to provide three ways in which they plan to advocate to make students more employable upon graduation. All opponents agreed that community service learning was important.

The forum was capped off by several questions asked by students. Voting for the SU elections will take place March 7 and 8. For more information on each candidate and their platforms, visit *thegatewayonline.ca*'s multimedia section.





Smoking policy questioned by some councillors

SMOKING • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"What the policy intends is to have clean air, so there will be designated smoking zones and then areas where there won't be smoking," explained science councillor Kim Ferguson. "However, in the other sense, I feel like if (students) read political policies, they would be reading that the SU doesn't believe they should smoke where the city and province tells them they should be able to smoke."

Ferguson added that when she sent an email request for the scientific data used in the making of this policy, she was told she should conduct her own research.

However, Chaka Zinyemba, an arts councillor who spearheaded the push for a smoking policy on campus, stressed that exposure to second-hand smoke presents a very real danger to student health.

"But it's a fair concern that we didn't consult smokers," Zinyemba added. "One of the problems is that there isn't one body of smokers that you can go to."

On the other hand, Zinyemba admitted the policy reviewers did contact the Smoke Free Campus Initiative, a student group opposed to smoking on campus. They also relied on data collected from a recent SU survey, in which a question asked whether or not students would be in favour of a campus wide smoking ban, a restriction of smoking to designated areas, or no change to the status quo.

"We used the survey as a way of showing a broad base of students," Zinyemba explained. "While we don't have much statistical evidence as to how many students who took part in the survey were smokers, and how many weren't, 7,000 people (replied), so I'm sure that we can say somewhere there there's some smokers."



LIGHTING UP A new policy passed by Students' Council may limit students to smoking only in certain areas. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: RYAN BROMSGROVE

Zinyemba added that the role of the SU in a policy like this is somewhat limited, since in order to create a smoke-free campus, the decision would have to pass through various bodies, such as the Board of Governors.

SU President Rory Tighe, who voted in favour of the policy, added that approximately seven per cent of students at the U of A smoke, meaning that around 500 smokers should have answered the survey.

"I disagree with the premise that there hasn't been enough consultation on it," Tighe said. "We did the survey, and 7,256 people responded to the question of whether or not they'd like to see a change on campus regarding smoking policy. There's no reason why smokers would be underrepresented in the survey more than they would be in the general population."

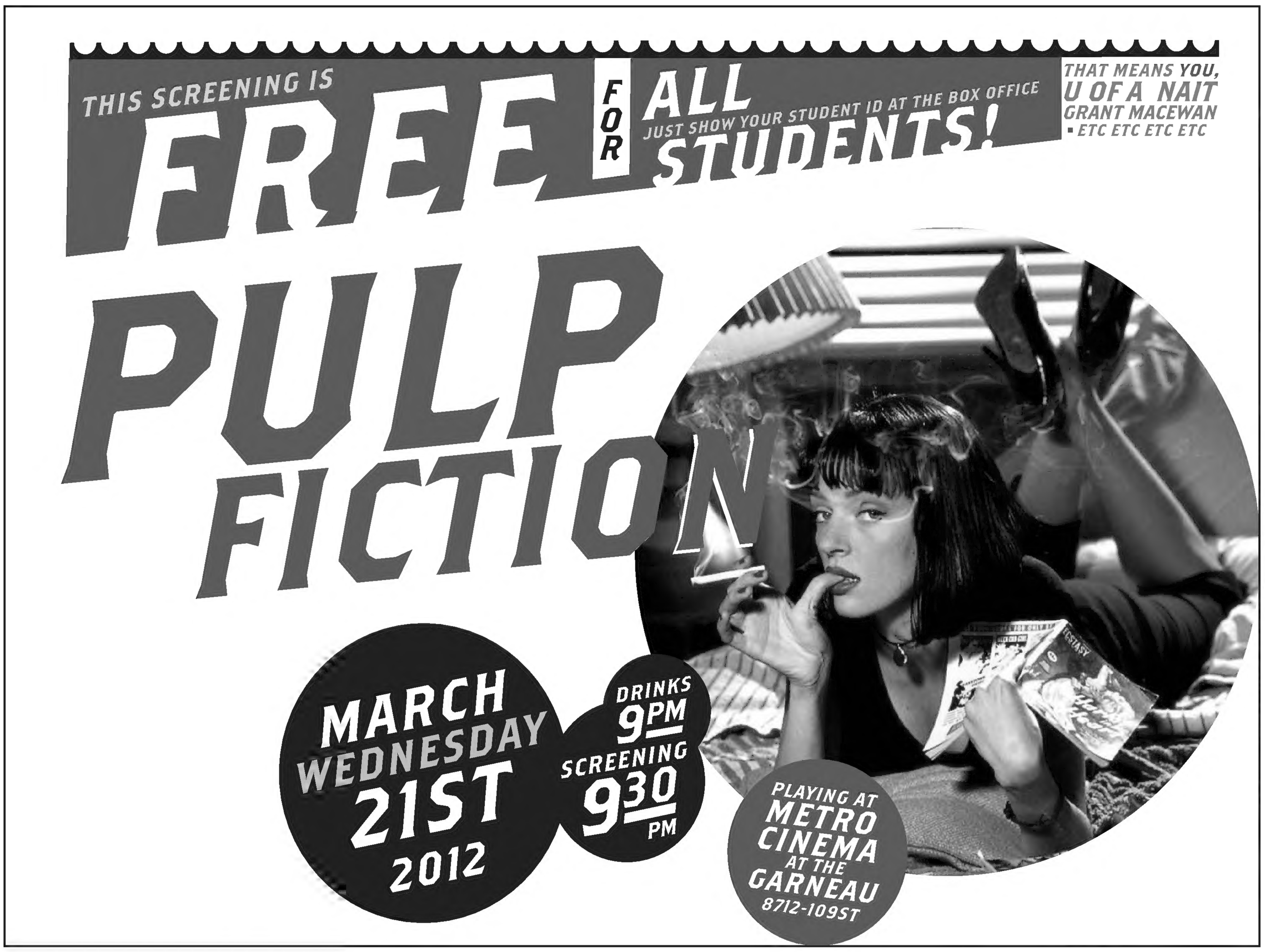
Tighe added that any limitation or rule can be regarded as a restriction of rights, but that there is already a precedent in place for this type of regulation, since students are not allowed to smoke inside or within five metres of an entrance.

"I don't know who we could have consulted with more than we already did," Tighe added. "Eighty-one per cent of respondents to that survey indicated that they wanted to see some type of change."

"It feels like consultation in all the wrong places," said Faculty of Nursing councillor Eric Bellinger, who voted in favour of the policy despite his reservations. "They consulted a very anti-smoking group, and they used what I consider to be rather helpful statistical results from a survey. There wasn't much factual data to back this up — it felt very much askew in one direction. That's where my difficulty with passing this motion came from."

Bellinger added that consultation is key in a policy like this, since there is a large gap between the perceived rate of smoking on campus and the actual rate of smoking, which may affect councillors' decisions.

The policy will likely be back in council for its second reading by the end of March. If council passes it in its second reading, it will be up to next year's executive team to advocate the policy to the university's BoG.



Candidates discuss fees, social justice at SUBstage

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

Candidates in this year's Students' Union elections spent two days on SUBstage last week detailing their platforms and answering student questions.

Thursday's SUBstage Forum kicked off with platform speeches from the three presidential candidates, starting with Colten Yamagishi. After running through his three platform points of revolutionizing communications, restricting backdoor tuition and re-igniting past promises, Yamagishi went on to say that his competitors' platforms of rolling back tuition and removing the CoSSS Fee are unreasonable.

"This is the same as asking for a $200 check in the mail," Yamagishi said. "It's not going to happen. What we need to do is make sure new fees are voted for by the students, so we get to choose what we want to spend our money on."

Rao began the debate by asking the other candidates what role social justice plays in their minds in the Students' Union.

Farid quoted a paragraph from the SU's strategic plan, which outlines their vision and states that the SU exists to represent U of A students in order to support their pursuit of knowledge and enhance their university experience.

"If social justice is an important part for students, we should be helping them through student groups," Iskandar added. "Using the SU for issues that are not the support of knowledge and the enhancement of the university experience is not what I'm here for, and it's not what the SU is here for."

The next debate featured the candidates for the Vice-President (External) position. All candidates had similar platform points, which Petros Kusmu noted were based in policy. During the candidate debate, Dorothy Roberts asked her competitors what they know about property taxes on residences and what they would advocate for on that point.

> **"Using the SU for issues that are not the support of knowledge and the enhancement of the university experience is not what I'm here for."**
>
> FARID ISKANDAR
> SU PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

"Alberta's the only province in Canada that charges these taxes on residences," Woods said. "The way I'd like to approach this is to approach the municipal government. From there, if that failed, I would go to the province."

The Vice-President (External) candidates were followed by the single candidate for Vice-President (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar, who gave his platform but did not have any competitors to debate. Sumar's platform featured communication between the SU and students, as well as making events more relevant.

The second part of SUBstage forum took place Friday, starting with the Vice-President (Operations and Finance) debate. During the debate, Cheema asked his competitors to explain how the Students' Union's budget works.

Nguyen replied that she doesn't know it as well as Cheema, but explained part of the process. McGinn added that training for these types of things happens once the winning candidate takes office.

Vice-President (Academic) candidates debated next, during which Dustin Chelen asked his opponents to list three things they would do to support the efforts of faculty associations on campus.

"I feel the best way to support someone through a work relationship is to build a personal relationship," San Ruth replied, adding that FAs should start working together as well with executives on the Students' Union.

The forum ended with a debate between the Board of Governors' representatives, and was live-streamed on the Students' Union website. Voting for the SU's election takes place on March 7 and 8.



WINNING THE CROWD BoG Rep candidate Brent Kelly speaks at SUBstage. MATT HIRJI

Presidential candidate hopes to maintain momentum next year

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

The President is the chief executive officer of the GSA and is responsible for the GSA's overall operations, as well as external and university affairs.



TOP SPOT Ashlyn Bernier is running for GSA President. SUPPLIED

1 Describe your platform for next year.

Ashlyn Bernier: It centres on encouraging graduate students to get the most value out of their degree. To me, getting the most value out of your degree is not just about sitting in a lab, or publishing, going to conferences, but also taking advantage of all the professional development opportunities there areetting involved with clubs, and meeting as many people as possible within and outside your field of study.

I feel that if students realize how important it is to do that, and if they're given ample opportunity to develop themselves in that way, then they will graduate and be well set up to either go in an academic direction or go in one of the many other directions they'll come to be aware of through that process.

2 What do you think are some of the major issues affecting the GSA?

Bernier: I think the GSA has come a long way from where it was a few years ago. The major issue with the GSA this year might be just keeping the momentum going, with an entirely new executive coming in. I think the support staff at the GSA is going to play a big part in that, and that they're very well suited to tackle that issue.

3 Why do you think you're the person to lead the GSA?

Bernier: I've been through a grad program from start to finish, so I've seen the highs, seen the lows, learned a thing or two about how to best deal with the challenges that come along with being a grad student.

I think I'm in tune with the pulse of graduate studies here at the U of A. And now, going from a thesis-based PhD, where I was doing research, to an MBA, which is course-based — I'm seeing both sides of things and how there's different challenges for different departments and degree programs. And I will continue to develop that.

4 As someone who has never sat on the executive of the GSA, why didn't you run for one of the other positions?

Bernier: The the presidency was a position Ellen Schoek, the GSA Executive Director, told me I would be best suited in. Considering that I don't have experience in university governance from the GSA, it was very intimidating for me to come in. I'm putting a lot of faith in our executive director's recommendation, and just in myself. I think I'm up for it. I think it will be a challenge – but the most rewarding things in life often are.

Zhong sole Student Life candidate for GSA exec

Zaineb Hussein
NEWS STAFF

The Vice-President (Student Life) is responsible for student life and engagement, including planning social events, supporting graduate student groups and residence life.

1 What skills or experience make you suitable for Vice-President (Student Life) position?

Hummin Zhong: I did my undergraduate in China ... and I was the Vice-President of the sudents' union there. During those four years of my undergrad, I organized a lot of activities, such as debate contests, dodgeball games, and concerts, all which had hundreds of participants and audiences of over 1,000.

Also, I am currently a budget and finance member of the GSA. I actually have a lot of understanding of the GSA structure, so I think this will allow me, if elected, to quickly be able to get involved and make a difference.

2 What will be your priority next year, if elected?

Zhong: The first priority for me is to cooperate with all full-time workers in the GSA in order to be a really organized, healthy and sustainable organization. I think structure is the most important thing. The second thing which is most important to me is that I don't think there is enough involvement of departmental GSA. Some departments don't have local GSA, and some people, such as my friends, don't know what GSA is for. The only communication they have with the GSA is orientation time, but during their next two years of studying, they don't have much communication with the GSA.

I think the most important part of my job is to help the department build up their local GSA. Through this we can get more voices, and understand what the graduates really need, and what their demands are. We can be an organization which can be better at meeting their needs and represent their rights.

3 How do you intend to support graduate student groups?

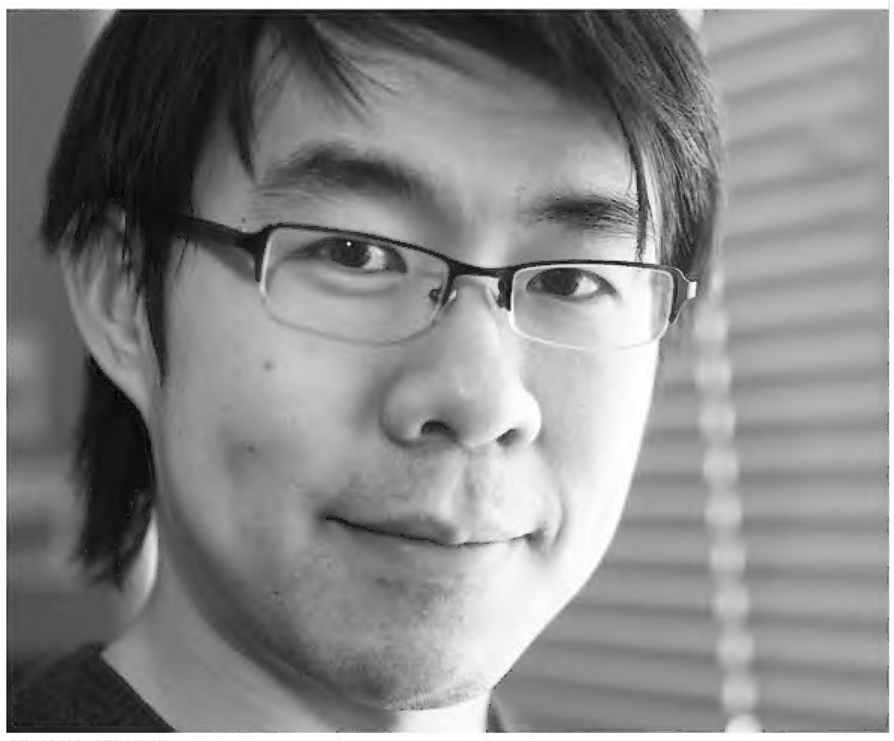
Zhong: First, I don't think there are enough graduate student groups because grad students don't have time. I can divide graduate students into two groups. Some students are devoted to research area, and students who want to find a job. So there could be a group devoted to building networks and communicating ... The GSA could communicate with different governments, firms, industries, and then help graduate students in pursuing careers. If graduate students have different types of goals, we should have different kinds of student groups.

4 How do you intend to communicate your initiatives to students next year?

Zhong: Right now, the GSA has a council meeting every month. Some of the council are from different departments, but not every department has a council. I think creating a local GSA would be a good way ... We can communicate (information) through volunteer programs. The first year or the first semester of graduate students' lives are not easy, so maybe we can organize activities to get them involved — not only activities, but also the work of the GSA. After they get to know what's going on in the GSA, they might consider running for a position.

Adnan battles Li in VP (Student Services) race





AT YOUR SERVICE Naseeb Adnan (above) and Zhendong Li (bottom) are both running for GSA Vice-President (Student Services). DAN MCKECHNIE

Alex Migdal
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @ALEXEM

The Vice-President (Student Services) is responsible for GSA and university services provided to graduate students and for space-related issues.

1 What skills or experiences make you suitable for the position?

Naseeb Adnan: I have been involved with the GSA since 2010. I was elected as councillor-at-large. I've worked with other student groups, and have experience working as a faculty member for three years in engineering in Bangladesh.

Also, most importantly, I went through the training program. This year, it was the first time the GSA offered a training program to ensure a smooth transition. After completing the training program, I'm confident I know what my job is, and what are the services frequented by grad students. I have a lot of experience, and some fresh ideas to implement.

Zhendong Li: I'm a grad student, and I know what a grad student wants. I understand what grad students' concerns are.

I've been taking part of a six-month training program with the GSA, and understanding the inner workings of the GSA, and helping them with their continuity.

I'm also serving on the health centre action group, which deals with the new wellness centre on campus. That's allowed me to understand some of the health aspects of services provided by GSA and anything that's lacking in health services.

2 What is one new initiative you would push forward next year, if elected?

Adnan: My first priority will be a mentorship program for the professional development of grad students. I feel that professional development is one of the main issues that the GSA can focus on. I want to use the mentorship program for that.

Second thing I would say is that 40 per cent of grad students are international students, and they have issues related to their writing skills, improvement immigration services, etcetera. I want to enhance immigration with the GSA, and problems related to the grad students from different countries.

Li: Currently right now I'm looking for an extension on the services provided by human services in regards to mental health. There's been a survey done on grad students about the level of psychiatric health from human services. There's a large percentage of people not satisfied with the psychiatrists. I'm going to see if there's anything I can do to change the staff or potentially seeing if there's any way of getting the services back on campus with the mental health centre.

3 What are your thoughts on the spring/summer U-Pass for grad students this year, and do you think it could be improved?

Adnan: It was mainly just used for research-based students, and I think that by introducing U-Pass throughout the year, we will actually be able to free up department space, and it creates a culture of using public transportation. To improve, I think we could add more municipalities. I think, right now, it could be extended to all grad students.

Li: We desperately need that service because as a grad student, we work year-round, and if we don't have a bus pass for half a year, it could be a very large cost. I think we would definitely keep that. The only improvement would probably be trying to reduce the cost increases in the future. Increases are coming, but the only improvement would be to try lessen that impact.

> **"I feel that professional development is one of the main issues that the GSA can focus on."**
>
> NASEEB ADNAN
> GSA VICE-PRESIDENT (STUDENT SERVICES) CANDIDATE

4 What do you think is the biggest issue in the VP (SS) portfolio going into this year?

Adnan: The biggest issue is how can GSA help us to improve more efficiently in professional development.

Li: Definitely the mental health. That's been a push from around campus in terms of undergraduates. I think graduate students should also be looking into it because grad students have a completely different set of mental health issues that we need to look into it to see if the service is being addressed.

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LABOUR OF LOVE Brent Epperson, pictured above, is running for GSA Vice-President (Labour). DAN MCKECHNIE

Collective agreement a priority for GSA VP (Labour) candidate

Alex Migdal
NEWS EDITOR ▪ @ALEXEM

The Vice-President (Labour) is responsible for labour-related matters concerning graduate students and special projects.

1 Why are you running for the Vice President (Labour) position?

Brent Epperson: The collective agreement to student assistants is going to be re-negotiated in the fall, so it's a very important year for graduate students. I wanted the opportunity to influence that, and bring some of the grassroots department organizing that I'd done (with the Faculty of Arts Solidarity group) into the collective agreement negotiations.

2 What is the main initiative you'll be pushing forward next year, if elected?

Epperson: It's not really a position where you can set a platform, and decide I'm going to A, B and C next year. The biggest thing I'm going to have to do is to lead the negotiations for the collective agreement ... I don't have any control over the schedule of that, I just have come in and do my best to re-negotiate that, and try and get some more benefits for graduate student assistants. The other thing would be is just attending the meetings that are already scheduled that the VP (Labour) sits on.

The one thing I would like to do, and this ties in with what I've been talking about with the collective agreement, is to interact more with department-level graduate student associations, and develop a more holistic approach in dealing with university administration, and understanding what needs are in each department.

3 How do you intend to engage the graduate students you represent and ensure that their employment-related concerns are heard?

Epperson: For disputes, that's easy, because they come to us when there's a problem. But, through the Faculty of Arts Solidarity group and the Political Science Graduate Students' Association, I've made a lot of good connections within the Faculty of Arts.

Also, I've made a couple of connections in other faculties like education. But I want to go and meet more people across campus, more graduate departmental association leaders, and after the election, that's something I'll make a priority.

4 What is the main challenge you think you'll be facing with the VP (Labour) portfolio?

Epperson: The biggest challenge would be getting a better collective agreement. It's already a good one, but the objective every time has to be to get a better one. For that, I'm going to need input from departmental associations.

There's (also) a labour liaison in two departments right now: political science — my department — and neuroscience. The labour liaison is a person in the department that students can go to directly for non-partisan advice on labour issues. That's something I think I was missing, and I'm really looking forward to expanding that program.

5 If you could invent any job at the U of A for grad students, what would it be?

Epperson: If I could invent any job, it would be a research assistantship that corresponds to graduate students on work. That's something that would be interesting for them, and save a lot of time for them as well.

Andrews squares off with Rathbone in GSA's VP (Academic) election

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER ▪ @APRIL_HUDSON

The Vice-President (Academic) promotes the interests of graduate students by sitting on numerous university committees that deal with academic matters.

1 What makes you right for this position, and what sets you apart from the other candidates?

Nathan Andrews: In terms of leadership, and being a part of government, generally, I am currently the president of the African Students' Association, and I also sit on the General Faculties Council. I think all the skills I've acquired over the years can be combined to make me a great candidate.

Andy Rathbone: I have become involved in student governance through my work in committees, and I've worked at every level of the GSA council. I've been on departmental committees, faculty committees, and right now I'm sitting on three university committees. What sets me apart is that my background is in the study of higher education.

2 What are you going to make a priority if you're elected?

Andrews: The GSA often constructs plans that run into different years. I intend to do things, but I don't intend to complete them, because all my goals are quite ambitious. First of all, I'm looking at grad student funding, particularly funding for international students.

The second thing I'm thinking of doing concerns evaluations. In order to have your portfolio, you need to have evaluations of all the courses you have been a part of. The last thing is about supervisor-student relationships, and at the graduate level, that is the key issue of every graduate student.

Rathbone: My biggest concern is student engagement, as well as continuing the work that has been done on assessments — moving away from what we have now to something more criteria-based, which looks at formative assessment to a larger degree and places a greater emphasis on the teaching-learning process.

3 How would you characterize the GSA's relationship with the university on academic matters, and how would you work to improve it?

Andrews: Currently, the GSA sits on most of the committees that deal with academic issues. The university believes in collegial governance, so the GSA has to work with the university to make things work. I feel the GSA could be more thoughtful and implement some of the things they want to implement to make grad students' lives more comfortable.

Rathbone: It's always a work in progress. I see my job as working within that framework, and particularly in the area of making sure that students have the supports that they need. I want to make sure students have an environment in which they will be successful. The university is looking to increase the amount of international graduate students by 30 per cent, so I've asked the question at GFC: what is the university doing to make sure that when those students come, they will have the supports they need?

4 If you could invent any course at the U of A, what would it be?

Andrews: I would implement a class for leadership and professional development, for both grads and undergrads, if I had the chance.

Rathbone: A "Talk About Life Over Beer" class.

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Deadline for entries is Wednesday, March 28 at 5 p.m.

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Opinion

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Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL **COMMENT**

Communication the same empty promise every year

WITH ANOTHER YEAR OF STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS COMES another year of cliched platform points trotted out to win over the electorate. And the worst among these is the annual promise for better communication: oft cited but rarely followed through.

It's likely the easy way communication can be bandied about that explains why most candidates at least promise some form of improvement. "You'll hear more often from me," they say, hoping that promising to have more discussion with the electorate will pass for action.

It won't. There's no reason to believe any of the current candidates are going to be any more likely to follow through on these promises than in previous years. And that's too bad, because better discussion of what's happening at the Students' Union is would greatly benefit the organization. Something as simple as getting out and talking to students could help facilitate more involvement on campus, as well as better and more representative policies from the organization.

At the moment, communication from our student government can be hit or miss. When big issues come up, such as this year's deregulation of mandatory non-instructional fees, they find time to raise their voices and get students involved. But they are often silent when it comes to the smaller issues facing the Students' Union and the rest of campus.

Solving this communication gap wouldn't require a great expenditure of resources by the SU, or any rethinking of the way the organization works. Modern communication tools have revolutionized the ease through which information can spread.

Twitter and Facebook can push information across campus instantly. Posts to the SU website can be used to expand on anything of importance, and to provide a platform for video and audio. And in-person forums can provide a chance for students to interact with SU staff and executives.

The problem isn't that these don't already happen, but the quantity and quality of the communications coming from the SU. Executive Twitter feeds are of little informational value, while the website only displays a few initiatives at a time. Even a recent campus tour organized by the Students' Union is too little, too late.

These are things the SU should be focused on all year, not just early in the winter semester. The quality of communication can be increased as well as the quantity. Information about the budgeting process, posts about what the executives are doing and a layman's translation of what's happening at students' council would go a long way to including more people in the affairs of their student government.

To this point, the promise of better communication has largely been empty, and it's usually the first campaign plank to get thrown under the bus. Rory Tighe said he would push better communication last year, and admitted that by early January he hadn't been able to live up to his own promise. And so far this year's candidates don't seem to have much to offer.

Both Colten Yamagishi and Andy Cheema have promised more complex communication, by installing digital kiosks, an idea already being pushed forward this year. They also want to expand SUTV and place more screens throughout campus.

Adi Rao has also promised better communication, though his ideas involve giving students a voice on SU budgeting — which they already have through their elected officials — and to move the president's desk to the main floor of SUB once a year.

These are all overly complicated solutions to a relatively simple problem — just talk to students more often, both directly and through online mediums.

Communication shouldn't be a separate part of the organization or a major platform point — it should be an everyday goal and part of every project. The Students' Union takes in $70 a year from every undergraduate and has a $10 million annual budget. A little bit of face time would go a long way towards making students feel more involved, and that's all we need.

Justin Bell
MANAGING EDITOR

EDITORIAL **HAIKU**

Flamethrower's legit

Pedants think its fake
We torched those posters proper
No Photoshop here

Dan McKechnie
PHOTO EDITOR



ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

Pandas field hockey cut handled distastefully

(Re: "*Pandas field hockey team axed*," by Rebecca Medel, March 3)

The process by which the Pandas field hockey team was recently "cut-out" of the University Athletics Department ought to be offensive to all student-athletes. The process lacked transparency, was highly discretionary and, quite simply, distasteful.

I have no problem whatsoever with the athletics administration cutting the field hockey team for the greater good of the organization. Making budget cuts is a reality that we all face, organizations included; making tradeoffs is an inherent part of the decision-making process.

What does concern me, however, is how the administration went about making the decision to cut the field hockey team and how they went about informing the field hockey athletes.

It seems that no formal analysis was conducted to weigh the costs and benefits of cutting the team. If there was analysis produced, transparent decision-making requires such a report be released to the athletic community.

The fact that no formal report was released to the athletic community implies that there was a high degree of discretionary decision-making going on here. One or a few people at the top decided, for whatever reasons (could be political, economic, personal, etc. – the point is: who knows), that the field hockey women ought to be excluded.

To be clear, I am not suggesting that the decision-making authority be decentralized; rather I am suggesting that the decision-making process be conducted in a more transparent, non-discretionary (objective), inclusive and less political manner.

Clearly, these reasonable expectations were not adhered to. The reasons cited for slashing the team, including the notion that there was not enough grassroots support in Alberta or because the national field hockey team did not qualify for the Olympics are "fluffy" and non-objective reasons for making such a cut. Objective decision-making requires evidence and comprehensive analysis; it requires a normative and just statement supported by objective comparisons of alternative choices.

Also, informing the women in such an abrupt and short-notice manner and failing to consult with them was simply distasteful. Given both of these failings suggests to me that the athletics administration does not sincerely care about its athletes and their opinions. If they sincerely cared, they would treat their athletes more like family and less like subjects.

Given the discretionary, subjective and insincere way that this decision process was conducted, suggests that the athletics administration operates more in congruence to a political party than the transparent decision-making body that it ought to be. Student-athletes and the broader student community expect a more satisfactory decision-making process from those "higher authorities."

If you are in disagreement with me that the Panda's field hockey team was treated in an unjust and distasteful manner, remember one thing: your team may be next on the chopping block.

James M. J. Fransoo
FORMER GOLDEN BEAR HOCKEY ATHLETE

FROM THE **WEB**

Pandas field hockey must be saved

(Re: "*Pandas field hockey team axed*," by Rebecca Medel, March 3)

This is incomprehensible. Athletes truly have invested and made life decsions on the opportunity to play for four to five years. This is a team that is indeed competitive and one in which has a history of many ex-national team players and coaches. The reasons cited by Reade are ridiculous as if you look to other sports national team performance is irrevelant to the CIS competition and opportunities. I hope that all the "big players" in Panda's field hockey will come together to save this program.

Deb Cuthbert
VIA INTERNET

Pandas cut disappointing

(Re: "*Pandas field hockey team axed*," by Rebecca Medel, March 3)

As a U of A alumni, I'm disappointed. Sure — there are sometimes budget constraints — but those are addressed openly, and regularly. What kind of leader sneaks up and executes a team? Obviously the power

PLEASE SEE **LETTERS** • PAGE 13

Not enough action on financial accountability



Scott Fenwick
OPINION STAFF



SLACKING OFF Students' Council not yet taking appropriate steps to make faculty associations more accountable. FILE PHOTO ARON YEO

Nearly three months after the Students' Union learned that $27,745 was stolen from the Business Students' Association, some troubling questions remain about how the whole ordeal was handled and where the organization is going from here to prevent such instances from going unreported.

Most of the SU's work since the theft has been in helping the BSA investigate the theft and tighten up their internal financial regulations. However, little has been done to date to address some underlying issues at the SU level with undergraduate faculty associations and their financial reporting. This is particularly troubling since after this spring up to seven faculty associations may be charging membership fees, thus raising the stakes and risk if it's not addressed.

Students still don't know why the BSA waited nearly three months to tell the SU that money was stolen. Executives from the BSA discovered the theft in late August 2011 and the SU only found out in early December. The delay ultimately meant that a formal investigation started later than it should have. That in turn meant that business students were notified of the theft only after consultation on renewing their Faculty Association Membership Fee started.

But the SU seems to prefer putting that aside. SU Vice-President (Academic) Emerson Csorba, who as part of his job is responsible for faculty associations, said that it takes time to discuss allegations as serious as theft within an executive of.

"When something of that magnitude takes place, it's something that can just take time to discuss," he said. "That's not something that you can necessarily react to immediately. And once they had enough facts on their hands, that's when they brought it forward to us so we could have a clear discussion." He added that their work in helping the BSA since December has led to an atmosphere of trust, which will help address future problems as they arise.

But three months is a long time not to tell anyone. Faculty association executives are usually full-time students first and executives second. They're rarely trained to deal with investigating theft. If an someone suspected it took place, their first instinct should have been to get outside help from the SU or Dean of Students Office, organizations with the expertise and resources to deal with suspected fraud.

The circumstances in which the SU found out about the theft also arouses interest. Csorba said the SU heard that a theft took place before the BSA admitted it, but looking to verify the allegation's credibility, requested a special meeting with BSA executives to confirm what had happened. "It was us that brought it up," he said. "Before we met them, we weren't sure. I mean, they're allegations. But you want to cover your bases and make sure that you have all the information."

The root problem here is that when it comes to reporting the financials of faculty associations, policy only requires that they submit their audited financial statements and budgets to the SU's Audit Committee every year. That's definitely a good policy to have. However, there's no requirement in SU bylaw compelling faculty associations to report suspected fraud or theft to the SU outside of their financial statements. This means a faculty association that remains silent about fraud through the year until its audit time wouldn't violate bylaw.

In a plausible scenario, the SU may only uncover fraud for the first time when reading a faculty association's financial statements. And it's only now, at this time of year, that the SU is getting audits from the 2010-11 fiscal year, which usually end with executive transition over the summer. Simply put, reporting theft as early as possible would enable formal investigation to start as early as possible, and thus increase the chances of righting a wrong.

An internal discussion within the SU administration is taking place on how to revise its current rules on faculty association financial reporting, and Students' Council's Bylaw Committee may be in a position to conduct its own review soon. It can't come soon enough. Although embezzlement is rare, it happens, and the SU needs to know about it and deal with it as soon as they can.

Robocall controversy overblown



Josh Schmaltz
OPINION STAFF



HANG UP Robocalls likely didn't have a significant effect. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION MATT HIRJI

So, what has the Canadian government been up to for the last two weeks? Have they been churning out legislation and fairly representing the views of all Canadians? Hell if I know, because all any of us have heard about has been the storm over "robocalls."

During the last federal election, numerous people received anonymous calls from a computer directing them to wrong or non-existent polling stations on election day. Many of those on the receiving ends of these calls also happened to be Liberal or NDP supporters. According to Liberal Interim Leader Bob Rae, "It contributed to the defeat of a number of candidates." The concern that can be extrapolated from this is that the election may be invalid.

No one has come forward to admit guilt for these phone calls. And the House of Commons apparently hasn't accomplished anything useful since these allegations came forward, because based on the amount of finger pointing and name-calling that has been going on, Parliament Hill has become Canada's newest school playground.

Elections Canada is now investigating more than 31,000 complaints of harassing calls received by voters during the 2011 election campaign. It turns out that people also received harassing phone calls from individuals pretending to be associated with the local NDP or Liberal candidate. People were called late at night, early in the morning, on religious holidays, and — gasp! — even while driving.

The issue here is that many believe these calls made a difference in the outcome of the election. Let's run some numbers. So far, there are reports of harassing phone calls in 57 ridings. Let's assume there are 62,000 Liberal and NDP supporters — double the actual number of complaints — who did not get to vote due to alleged dirty tricks last election. Dividing this evenly, we get 1,088 sabotaged voters per sabotaged riding.

Only six of the ridings won by the Conservatives out of the 57 in question were decided by 1,088 votes or fewer. Taking those six seats away leaves the Conservatives with 159 seats, which is still enough for majority control of the House of Commons. Turns out it was the Liberals' own incompetence that lost them the election. They didn't need any help from the idiots with a cell phone registered to a "Pierre Poutine."

So, who goes to jail? We're dealing with politicians here, so probably no one. Faking calls from Elections Canada is illegal, so the legality of the robocalls depends on the exact wording of the recorded message. The candidates targeted by the harassing live phone calls to voters may have grounds for defamation lawsuits, but like every other political controversy in Canada, the "robocall scandal" is probably more than 90 per cent hot air. If things get exciting, perhaps one or two nobodies will do some hard probation for masterminding the scheme. Maybe.

The real problem here is the distraction created by this fiasco. Members of Parliament are elected to govern our country. Instead, we get things like robocalls and Vikileaks. You can hire quite a few professional clowns on an MP's salary, so if we're declaring the election invalid, we might as well save a few bucks next time and get some entertainment on the side.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

To the guy playing Tetris in Cameron: People are waiting to actually accomplish something! Either work or log off!

I can't replace you, I try and am disappointed, I try to stop thinking about you but can't. I miss you, Jalepeno Cheddar bagels with zesty cheddar cream cheese!

I don't do morning sex; want to be my lesbian lover and share my BF? He's into it.

to all those young girls, cleavage and cheap perfume does not belong in the classroom, doh! from cougar

So looking forward to Gateway's Poster Slam! Always fun to read. Don't go easy on these kids, Gatewayers. BRING IT!

Physics, back off man! I'll fucking shank you fool!

Dear Girl with the super clacky boots in Tory, quiet those feet, yo!

Goslinger Boys Club,
Dedicated to Ryan,
Earth's manliest hunk.

Gots mah iron ring
Hurr-durr Im better then you
Im a engineer

Organic beet juice makes the quad smell like spoiled teriyaki beef jerky.

To the hot girl in IPS who loves green. Thanks for making my reading week!

Colten knows we go to the U of A and not Hogwarts, right?

Dear annoying question guy in Psych 281: please shut up — if you want to tell the prof about your own random experiences, do it after class.

Why don't the Tim Hortons in Cab have lattes????? WTF.

man, if I were on campus more than twice a week, I would bend Fashion Streeters over backwards and show it what's what. I am the queen of the hipsters! find me and photograph me please.

A passive aggressive remark about something that bothers me. Sarcastic punchline!

Fall in love with all,
Get no reciprocal love,
Forever alone.

Smiles on your converse,
I am not lost or hiding,
Wednesday at four.

Next Year: Haiku Club,
Who would be interested?
Chalk would be involved.

3LF: A place where I reveal all my sexual desires and fantasies and expose them without inhibition and complete shamelessness.

Why would anybody vote Yamagishi when he still hasn't delivered on his promise of a campus musical. #liesliesslies

Rebecca Black has a class in CCIS L2-190 : Which stairs can I taaaaaaaaaake???

don't eat peanuts in class. There's still lots of us with severe allergies.

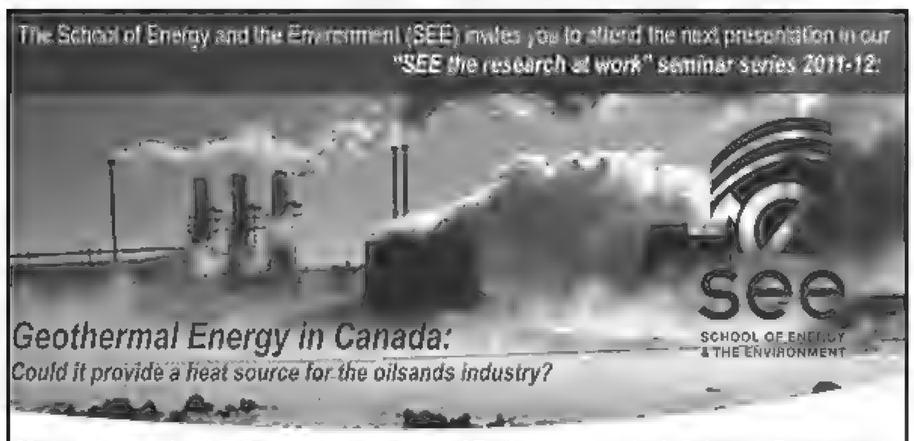
Bring back the field hockey team!

A lot of the 3LF I made up have made the cut. I want to write for the Gateway.... where do I sign up? I feel like I have what it takes.

Psst SUB 3-04

The Gateway *reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission it deems sexist, racist or otherwise hateful in nature.*

The School of Energy and the Environment (SEE) invites you to attend the next presentation in our "SEE the research at work" seminar series 2011-12:



Martyn Unsworth, PhD *Professor, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science*

Geothermal energy has the potential to generate a significant amount of electricity and heat with minimal environmental impact. Most geothermal projects to date have focused on locations where hot water is naturally present within 1-2 km of the surface such as Iceland and the Western United States. New developments may allow geothermal energy to be utilized over a much larger part of the continents, through the development of Engineered Geothermal Systems. This technique can work in regions where heat is present at depth, but the fractures and fluids needed to extract the heat must be artificially created. In this seminar, Dr. Unsworth will summarize how geothermal energy can be extracted from the Earth, with a focus on developments across Canada. This includes research carried out by the Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative to investigate if geothermal energy could provide heat for the oilsands industry.

All are welcome. RSVP not required.

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2012 | **Time:** 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Optional RSVP @ www.see.ualberta.ca
Location: Stollery Executive Development Centre, Room 5-40, Alberta School of Business, U of A
Questions? School of Energy and the Environment (SEE): ussee@ualberta.ca



RYAN BROMSGROVE



"Sometimes you can tell a large story with a tiny subject." - ELIOT PORTER
gateway photo
PHOTO MEETINGS FRIDAYS AT 4 PM IN 3-04 SUB.

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ISSS fee proposal too bloated



Adrian Lahola-Chomiak
OPINION STAFF

The Interdepartmental Science Students' Society has introduced a referendum calling for a new $6 fee to fund various initiatives like student advocacy and at-cost printing. Some of the ideas represent a good step forward for ISSS, but the package is bloated with unnecessary expenses.

Urban Dictionary defines FAMF as "fine-ass-motha-fucka," but unfortunately, in this context, we're talking about a Faculty Association Membership Fee. On their website, ISSS breaks down the $6 into six different categories with a much-toted 42 different projects between them. Overall, the fee covers some good perks for science students but focuses too much on propping up ISSS.

Out of the $6, the lion's share of the money, $2.48, goes to community building and science identification, which encompasses science student exclusive events and giveaways. A little more than one dollar goes to both science student groups and organizational capacity improvements with half as much going to outreach, marketing and student services. Sixty cents would go to services, and then sadly, the smallest share, $0.17, goes to what is arguably the most important aspect of ISSS: their academic representation and advocacy activities.

The best projects offer something that would affect the academic undergraduate experience of science students. One example would be the expansion of the very successful Mini Study Groups by paying for mentor training and program supplies. Other solid initiatives include at-cost printing, election forums, a career fair, bolstering science student groups and seeking the opinions of science students on various issues to better direct advocacy. I would gladly pay the $6 if I knew it was mostly going to fund initiatives like these.

We all have access to computers, which makes the concept of spending money to distribute information that could just as easily be included in a free online PDF absurd.

Unfortunately, many of the other projects don't seem to have these goals in mind. Initiatives like pancake breakfasts, ISSS merchandise, marketing PR expenses and prize giveaways definitely promote ISSS, but won't have the same effect on students' academics that something like the study groups will. An unnecessary amount of funds have been allocated to brand-building projects when the real purpose of ISSS should be to advocate on behalf of science students and provide them with valuable services.

A small number of projects border on blatantly wasteful, such as the plans for a science student handbook and a USB drive pre-loaded with academic materials. Although I support the creation of a reference for science students that contains information on important opportunities and deadlines, offering the handbook in print at extra cost to ISSS is a misstep.

This goes hand in hand with the pre-loaded USB plan. We all have access to computers, which makes the concept of spending money to distribute information that could just as easily be included in a free online PDF absurd.

The fee breakdown of the academic representation and advocacy portion leaves a number of things to be desired. This portion of the fee encompasses some of ISSS' most important responsibilities. Surveys, research, representation and advocacy should be the central focus of the organization, instead of self-promotion. Services are weighed down by initiatives that don't seem entirely out of place, but also don't seem necessary, such as the creation of a professor of the month award and rewards for a student-driven blog. Problems regarding undergraduate research opportunities, inconsistent grading by TAs, and class sizes are pervasive in the Faculty of Science and need to be addressed. Like many science students, I look to ISSS to represent me by advocating for change and I would like to see the proposed fee reflect this.

I don't care how many pancakes, hot chocolates and gift cards you give away if you can't change my academic experience for the better. In an effort to promote ISSS, the fee has become bloated with projects that do nothing more than increase the organization's visibility.

the marble pedestal

COMPILED BY Ryan Bromsgrove

Know who I'm placing on the Marble Pedestal this week? The fine folks at Edmonton International Airport security, that's who.

Back in January I went to B.C., but before that I was "randomly selected by 'the machine'" for the porno scanner. When they introduced these privacy-invading hunks of metal that don't make flying any safer, I was right there with everyone else criticizing them as the nadir of our decade-long fling with terrorismphobia, vowing never to step through one on principle.

True to my word, I opted for the pat down, and my world changed.

Rather than getting molested, I was given the five-star treatment. A cheery man popped out from behind the conveyor belts and greeted me with genuine joy. Whether because he really loves his job or just because I was the first person that morning to allow him to get off his ass and do something, he was really into it. He broke the ice by joking about going into another room with his rubber gloves before telling me not to worry — they don't beat people up anymore either.

He made what could have been a horrible experience not only tolerable, but — dare I say — enjoyable.

This fantastic specimen of security jovially informed me where he was going to touch me next before doing so, and never got uncomfortably close to my special areas. When it was over, he left me with a smile. A smile that never actually went away — still wearing it now. Bravo, sir. For getting that day off to a wonderful start, I give you one day atop the Marble Pedestal.

The Marble Pedestal is a semi-regular feature where we take something we really love and elevate it to a figurative pedestal in prose.

Smoking policy goes too far



Alexander Sorochan
OPINION WRITER



PUFFIN' AWAY No need for designated smoking areas. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: RYAN BROMSGROVE

"Flick... Puff. Relax." You can find that on the smoking shelter outside of Cameron Library, and no truer words have ever been written. Despite recent movement on Students' Union policy, and for all the health risks, smoking is a wonderful habit. It calms you down when you're stressed. It wakes you up when you're trying to start that 10-page paper due in eight hours. Yes, we all know smoking causes cancer and other health problems, but it's a choice people should make for themselves.

Recently, the Students' Union has been trying to establish policy around smoking, with discussion in committee to advocate that the university prohibit all smoking on campus. Thank god that didn't go through. But the policy that did pass requires advocating the university to limit smoking to designated smoking areas. The problem with this is that us smokers pay just as many fees to be here as the rest of you. If we want to smoke outside, we should be allowed to. The University of Alberta is our campus too, and even though we're filthy smokers we have rights. Slowly killing ourselves in an open space isn't really going to affect the rest of you.

The biggest argument for passing this policy are the health issues. Smoking causes cancer, lung disease and numerous other complications. We've known this for a long time, but still, people smoke, and that won't change. This isn't high school anymore — we're all adults and that means we can make our own decisions. If we're stupid enough to light up, then let us. There are already bans on smoking indoors, and that's fine — the rest of you smart people don't want to be inhaling second hand smoke 24/7. But when we're outside having a puff it's not like the rest of you have to deal with our nasty habit. It drifts away, and the smoke's gone before you know it. It's not like we're blowing it in your faces.

One of the other big arguments for this policy is the environmental impact that smoking has. People toss their butts on the ground and just forget about them. Now I may be a rarity, but when I'm on campus I really try to refrain from this. The University of Alberta is a beautiful campus and I'd hate to see it full of garbage. There's a reason for the ashtrays at every entrance to every building, so make people use them. Crack down on people who litter their butts, but let the rest of us fill our blackened lungs with tar in peace.

In regards to the whole designated area idea, I see one major flaw. As it stands now, the smoke coming from cigarettes is spread out. Even if a hundred people are smoking on campus at one time it's hardly noticeable. Now if they all have to smoke a single area, or a few small areas, you're going to find the concentration of smoke in those few places to be really high. Better to disperse the smoke across campus where it will dissipate faster.

Since the discovery that inhaling burning plants may not actually be the best idea, and that it can cause health problems, smokers have been looked down on. We can't smoke inside, we can't smoke near doorways — we can hardly smoke anywhere. The great outdoors is our last refuge from a world that wants to tell us what to do under the guise of looking out for us. The SU should not be passing policy that would advocate for more restrictions on smokers than there already are.



LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

structure of U of A is completely off track. Sounds like budget wasn't the real issue anyway?

I hope he is planning to pay the four years of scholarship that the athletes would have expected when they were recruited to the program.

My 11-year-old plays field hockey because of the U of A team (and her aunt's experience there). This is garbage.

Brad Bowyer
VIA INTERNET

It's too hard to find the perfect food on campus

(Re: "*Food promises attack a problem that goesn't exist*," by Darcy Ropchan, Feb. 29)

Amazing. This piece proves my hypothesis that opinion writers at *The Gateway* need to pass a d-bag test to write. There is a demand for more options from people on campus and many of us have tried real hard to find what we can eat. This is something of great importance and you clearly think that vegetarians and others are just hipsters complaining about things but this is something that really matters to us very much. It just reflects an underlying d-baggy bias towards people who choose to eat ethically. If you had put in some thought before writing I don't think that you would have dared to post this. Good job dude.

"bowow"
VIA INTERNET

Can't be accomodated by every vendor

(Re: "*Food promises attack a problem that goesn't exist*," by Darcy Ropchan, Feb. 29)

I don't think writing this article quite qualifies as d-bag status. What does qualify as d-bag status would be people like you who think that pushing your views of eating and living onto the rest of us will somehow make the world a better place. Society as a baseline does not live a vegetarian lifestyle, so being accommodated at every store possible seems a little far-fetched to me, you do have options on campus so stop your complaining and go get a veggie burger. Good on you for living a lifestyle that you believe in, but when it is *you* who steps out of the norm don't expect the rest of us to bend over backwards to accommodate you.

"nope"
VIA INTERNET

Students' Union's role to enable students

(Re: "*Day One: SU Presidential Candidates*," by Ryan Bromsgrove, Feb. 27)

Adi's platform is "misguided" in the sense that his job, if elected as president, is to represent the interests of students of the U of A. While I will agree that there are a group of students whose eat, drink and live social justice (and the world needs these people), there are also students on campus in our very own city that can't afford food, that can't afford rent, and without student loans would be screwed. While I agree that, if used properly, the SU could be a great vehicle for creating change, I think we need to focus on creating change within our own university first, before moving on to "the rest of Alberta and beyond." Create an environment that respects it's students, embraces their abilities, and doesn't take them for all they have.

That is, after all, what the SU was created for. It is not up to the SU to *tell* students what they should be doing or what they should care about (which, by all intents and purposes, is what would be happening should his platform come to fruition), but to *enable* students to do these things by looking out for their best interests behind the scenes, to ensure they are supported and empowered to create the movements and be the agents of change.

Jenna Parsonage
VIA INTERNET

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Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number.

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SUPPLIED

Government not following through on health promises



Andrew Jeffrey
OPINION STAFF

To those who haven't been paying close attention, Alison Redford's recent decision to hold a public inquiry into Alberta's health care system probably seems perfectly logical. After all, she made a similar promise during her campaign to become premier and now it looks like she's just following through.

But, no matter how much Redford has been trying to convey that message, it's not true. The inquiry is instead a significant breach of trust between Albertans and their government, and it doesn't address the real problems they face when they need emergency care.

A recent report from the Health Quality Council of Alberta showed rumors of intimidation and muzzling of physicians to be true. Many patients reportedly succumbed to their illnesses while on a waiting list for emergency care, and doctors felt powerless to help them.

According to the report, 51 per cent of physicians in the survey said they felt their ability to advocate for patients was limited and 20 per cent reported experiencing "active, hateful obstruction" when they expressed concern about patient services.

The report didn't mention intimidation having any political ties, but Redford herself has made it clear that political interference could be a problem. During her campaign last year she explicitly stated that she had called for a judicial inquiry into political interference, and even a month ago when questioned on the issue she assured the public that the problem would be looked into.

It's in our best interest to side with the doctors who want to see a direct investigation into this culture of intimidation.

Now the time has finally come for action to be taken, and Redford is suddenly too shy to tackle the problem head-on. Doctors want a judged public inquiry about intimidation specifically, where they can be called to the stand to show proof of the bullying tactics used against them.

But the scope of Redford's inquiry is too narrow, focusing instead on queue-jumping, or politicians being treated more quickly than the average citizen. It's a relatively small issue that doesn't address the major problem with Alberta's health care and doesn't allow doctors to come forward with proof of the difficulties they face advocating for patients.

Redford backtracked on what she promised Albertans, but she's actually done so in a way that makes it look as if she remained honest. She did promise to look into queue-jumping, meaning she can simply claim that she's following through on her promise without having to uncover potentially damaging information on the Conservative Party before the upcoming spring election.

That way, to the average citizen, especially those who are too apathetic to keep up with daily news stories about health care, it might seem as if Redford is helping them. But the truth is she has failed to protect the health of Albertans.

Redford is already receiving criticism from opposing parties for her dishonesty and for apparently using this report as window dressing for the upcoming provincial election. Those complaints shouldn't stop at the political level.

With the election in the spring and upcoming town halls in Calgary and Edmonton about the health-care system, Albertans have ample opportunity to question the government's inquiry and should speak out against Redford's decision. It's in our best interest to side with the doctors who want to see a direct investigation into this culture of intimidation.

We will all get sick at some point in our lives. We will likely all have to visit a hospital eventually, and unfortunately many of us may require emergency care.

We must be able to trust that our doctors have the ability to get us the treatment we need. If, as it appears, doctors don't feel they can advocate for their patients, it's the average Albertan who will suffer the consequences of a health care system that's failing them.

The subtle art of Facebook creeping



Tyler Hein
OPINION STAFF

Facebook has changed our world. It has given us the ability to maintain contact with old friends, made social media a viable source of information and somehow made poking people socially acceptable. The rise of technology and social media has allowed us to connect to each other in ways previous generations could never have imagined. But one of Facebook's greatest accomplishments — one that rarely gets the recognition it deserves — is its role in revolutionizing the stalking industry.

Nowadays, we can meet someone and within seconds find out a host of their personal information. Their hobbies and interests are listed right next to photos of them getting sloppy drunk last weekend. You can decide that you have nothing in common before even finishing your first conversation. I for one am glad we're finally free of that pesky, anachronistic idea of "getting to know someone through conversation." Judging a person based on their whole character is so outdated. There is no need to learn a person's complex history and personality when I can just type their name in, discover their fondness for Nickelback and be done with it.

There are guidelines to successful Facebook stalking; it's a delicate game — a subtle, nuanced art. It must be used with a gentle touch, and take care not to acknowledge to yourself how incredibly creepy it actually is. Be sure to become fans of the same bands they like, ask to see movies they posted about or ask what the deal is with that guy she hangs out with all the time who she mentioned to you once — even if she doesn't remember doing it.

And be careful when it comes to old friends and relationships. It's a slippery slope from, "I'll just see what they're up to now," to finding out you've been blocked and having to refriend her by making a new account under the pseudonym "Saule Goode" just to see who she's dating now. And the golden rule? Don't get caught. It may seem like something everyone does, but it's still apparently completely weird, and you don't want to be known as the guycaught creeping. No one needs that stigma — it can lead to some very unkind words. And as the old adage goes: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will stay with me and hurt me forever and cause deep emotional issues and an eventual eating disorder and years of expensive therapy." Not that I would know anything about that.

The only limit to the knowledge we can gain is the amount of information a person chooses to share. It's never been easier to connect with others through shared interests or to keep tabs on those who have wronged you. Truly, we live in the Golden Age of technological stalking. Just watch yourself out there.

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Criminalizing bullying won't help things



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION STAFF



ANOTHER NON-ISSUE Assault is already a criminal offence, so we don't need to criminalize bullying. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION DAN MCKECHNIE

Let's all agree that bullying is wrong and there is absolutely no justification for it. Now that that's been said, it's astounding that two-thirds of Canadians support the notion that bullying should be a punishable offence under the Criminal Code of Canada. It's an absurd idea that gives very little thought to what legislation like that would entail.

The Angus Reid Public Opinion Poll goes into further detail by saying that 90 per cent of respondents believe that Canada should consider cyber-bullying a crime. Nineteen per cent believed that bullying should only be a criminal offence if violence is involved.

Making bullying a criminal offence sounds like a good idea on the surface. A large number of people have been affected by bullying at some point in their life. It can hurt people physically and emotionally, and it can stick with someone throughout their life. But making bullying a crime would create a grey area almost impossible to define.

One of the problems with the poll is that it fails to define what bullying actually is. Bullying can take on many different forms which could make a piece of legislation like this hard to write and harder to enforce. Besides, the most common forms of bullying like physical violence, verbal and sexual harassment, and uttering threats are already covered under the Criminal Justice Act. So making the act of bullying a criminal offence is pointless.

Despite the forms of bullying that most are familiar with, it can mean different things to different people. Some have thicker skin than others, while others tend to take things the wrong way more often. What one person would take as friendly teasing could be misconstrued by another as harassment.

The question of whether or not bullying should be criminalized fails to take intent or the nature of it into the equation. Using bullying as a blanket term fails to set guidelines. Can I have people on Xbox Live arrested for telling me they had sex with my mother? A line has to be drawn, but there's no way we can all consistently agree on where it should be.

While it's no secret that bullying exists at all ages, the immediate image is of school-aged children. A large majority, if not all schools have a zero tolerance policy towards bullying. While it's true that some bullying may go unreported and some people slip through the cracks, that's hardly a reason to take it to the courts. Most schools are perfectly capable of handling these problems.

As mentioned, if things escalate to the point of blatant harassment or violence, there are already laws in place to deal with it. Not to mention the fact that there are numerous programs in place to educate kids about bullying.

The idea of making bullying a crime is a simple-minded solution to a problem that can already be easily dealt with through the courts when the circumstances allow it. Adding it to the criminal code criminalizes a term and nothing more — making it a punishable offence will not change anything. What we need to do to stop bullying is education and prevention.

the burlap sack

Ryan Bromsgrove

I'm throwing people who take the SUB elevators up one floor in the Burlap Sack this week. Unless you have a disability, or are moving heavy things around the building, you have no excuse.

Really, so you're going to walk past the ground-level stairwell, get to the elevators, wait for one to arrive, go up to the second floor, and then walk past the stairwell again to get to where you're going?

If you're trying to get from the second to the third floor, you have an excuse, because the stairwell doesn't actually allow you to make that trip. But in all other cases, just walk. The elevators are bad enough as it is without having to deal with a five-minute wait just to get on, followed by a delay because someone too lazy to go up one flight without the assistance of the worst elevators on campus makes it stop right after you get going. The doors take a long time to close, after all.

Next time you need to go up one floor in SUB — unless you fit into one of those three categories I gave — don't take the elevator. I might just have to start carrying a burlap sack in there with me. But most likely, I'll merely glare at you as you walk away.

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered. Promise.

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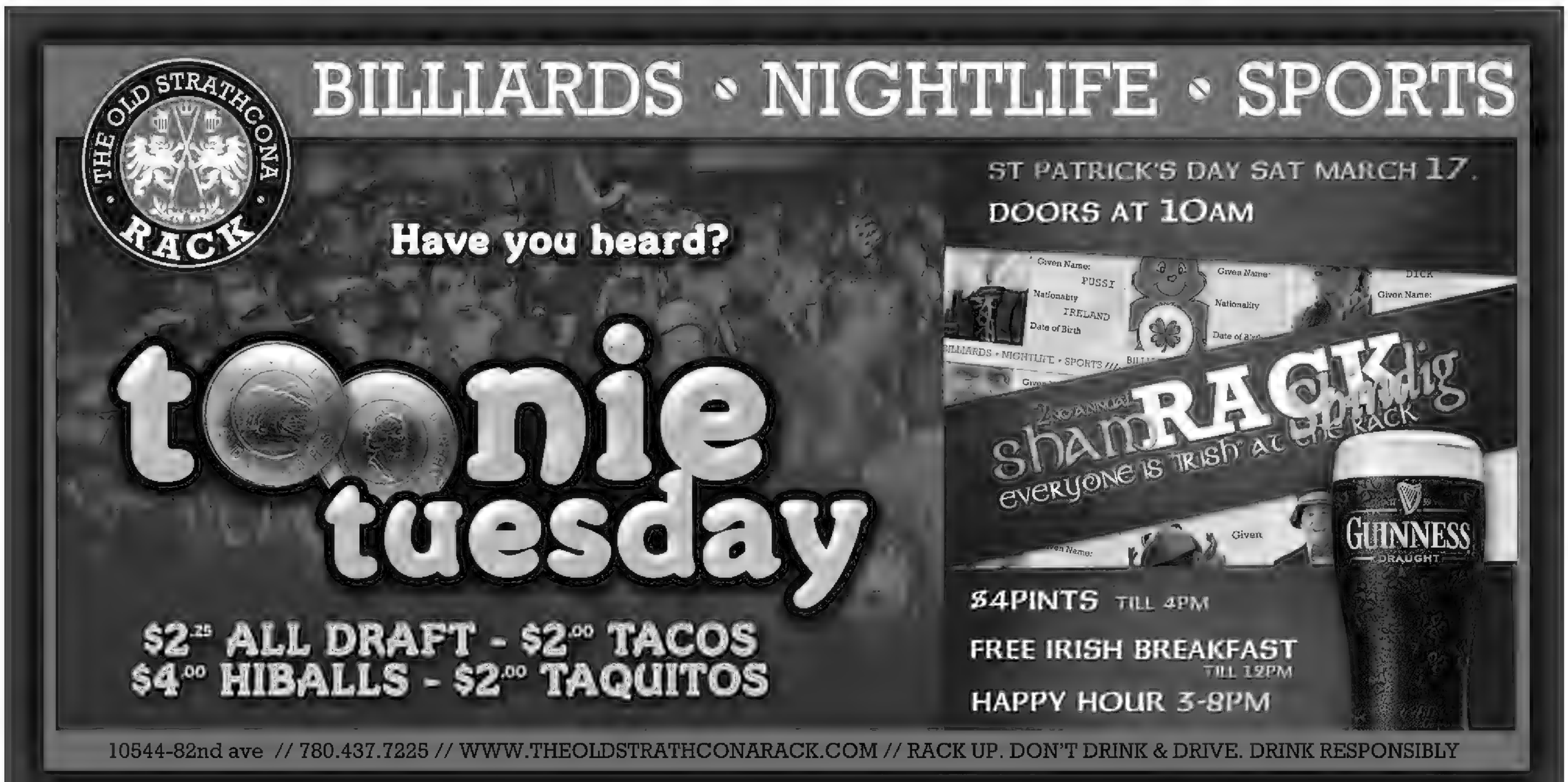
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ELECTION DISSECTION

Let's face it: Students' Union elections can be confusing for the average student. And with this year's executive race featuring 17 candidates, not including "None of the Above," even the most knowledgeable student might have a tough time casting an informed vote. That's why we've assembled a crack team of SU experts to help you decipher the buzz words and campaign promises shamelessly being thrown around. *The Gateway*'s Alex Migdal and April Hudson sat down with the panel mid-way through the campaign period in order to dissect the races and determine which candidates ultimately deserve your vote.

Aden Murphy is a sixth-year student who has spent far too much time in student government — two years as a councillor, one year as a SU policy researcher and Vice-President (External) last year, during which time he served as the chair of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations.

Simon Yackulic has spent five years keeping close track of the Students' Union, which culminated in his position as last year's *Gateway* Deputy News Editor, in which he broke the story of council pushing former Students' Union President Kory Mathewson to resign.

Alena Manera, a seventh-year U of A student, has had plenty of exposure to the Students' Union, including two consecutive terms as the SU's Associate VP (Student Life) from 2008-10, and a brief stint as the Chief Returning Officer in 2011 after the former CRO resigned.





Diversity and female candidates praised by panel

The panel kicked off the discussion by declaring this year's election one of the most exciting in recent memory, praising the diversity in the candidates.

"There's candidates coming from very different ideologies, which seems to be providing a legitimate choice in this election," Manera said.

"This is actually the most exciting election I've been around for," echoed Yackulic. "At least three of the races have one candidate who could be a solid choice.

"You don't have people running on the same platforms, and you have people who have a very clear idea of where they want the SU to go in the future. It's exciting that students are going to have the opportunity to choose that."

Murphy also called this year's election a "funny inversion from last year," when the Vice-President (Student Life) was the only contested race. This year, the race for VPSL is the only uncontested race.

The panel attributed the increase in candidates this year to the campus Greek system — seven candidates are members of fraternities or sororities — and an informal slate of social justice-minded candidates.

The number of female candidates running this year was also a point of praise for the panel, with Yackulic noting that nearly every race featured a "viable" female candidate.

"We've had a really testosterone-driven exec for the past thousand years," Manera said, "so it's really exciting to see some women might be walking into those offices."

Murphy said the dynamic of the election will change this year for two reasons: the candidates' ability to endorse one another, and the recently-passed motion that allows them to campaign on the two voting days.

"I think that's the most rational change that's happened to the SU voting system in the past 100 years of existence," Yackulic said. "It's been bizarre that's it's taken people this long in a 100-year-old students' union to realize that this was actually hurting voter turnout."

The panel estimated that voter turnout should fall somewhere between 20 to 30 per cent of students this year.

Vice-President (Student Life)

- Saadiq Sumar

Saadiq Sumar is a solid candidate for the Vice-President (Student Life) position, the panel decided, although Yackulic argued Sumar's "quiet campaign" has suffered as the only uncontested race.

"A single-candidate campaign to me always seems to feel weak and lacklustre, and I'm really disappointed that no one's running against him to make him even emphasize his qualities or positions more," Yackulic said.

But Yackulic praised Sumar's idea of running a music festival at the U of A, noting that it has the potential to become a viable and long-term SU event.

"He seems to really understand the importance of programming on campus, which I really like," Manera added. "He really understands it through the musical festival and how he wants to bring up smaller events, and he has a good idea of what makes the Students' Union accessible — the programming."

As for the Student Life position being the only uncontested race this year, Murphy said he suspects Sumar scared off many potential candidates with his experience.

"He's a pretty solid and competent candidate. If you're a first-year entering the race, it makes it a bit more daunting," Murphy said.

Will win: Saadiq Sumar – three votes
Should win: Saadiq Sumar – three votes

Board of Governors Representative

- Brent Kelly
- Rebecca Taylor

The panel agreed that Brent Kelly would bring a level of passion to the Board of Governors Representative portfolio sorely lacking from the other candidate, Rebecca Taylor, and past representatives. However, Kelly's polarizing platform and radical stance towards the Board of Governors had the panel torn over whether or not he would be the right fit for the job.

"(Kelly) has run the more passionate and energetic campaign, but at the same time, I think I disagree with what he's trying to achieve," Yackulic said. "(Kelly's) idea is to get up there and say, 'You don't like student interests, you won't listen to us, so I'm just going to protest.' They will shut him down 10 out of 10 times. And because of that, he will be the less effective candidate if you want to actually get anything done."

Manera disagreed, arguing that it isn't necessarily a bad thing to have someone on the BoG letting them know when they "screw over students."

"Look at the losses and the gains on the board that we've had over the past few years," Manera said. "Changing it up won't hurt.

"We've been playing the status quo in the Students' Union for so many years. We're not electing somebody to change the face of the SU forever. We're electing someone for a year, so let's try something new. Let's do it — let's unleash Brent Kelly on the Board of Governors."

While the panel was wary of Kelly's stance, they agreed that Taylor's campaign promise of building a good relationship with the BoG was uninspiring and a retread of past representatives.

Will win: Brent Kelly – three votes
Should win: Brent Kelly – three votes

Vice-President (Academic)

- Quetzala Carson
- Dustin Chelen
- Kelsey Mills
- San Ruth

Despite this year's Vice-President (Academic) race featuring four candidates, Dustin Chelen was the clear-cut choice for the panel.

Chelen's extensive experience with the Interdepartmental Science Students' Society and involvement in numerous academic committees makes him "extremely qualified" and puts him head and shoulders above the rest, according to Yackulic.

"I think his campaign and his performances at the debates have shown this," Yackulic said. "He's been very knowledgeable, and given very smart answers for every question he's had to tackle."

"He's the only candidate talking about assessment, and I think assessment is the biggest threat to this campus right now," Manera said. "(Chelen) really understands what the issues are for students, and that's probably became he's from a faculty association and talks to students everyday about what their issues are."

But the panel also approved of Quetzala Carson, praising her energy and willingness to tackle such a challenging position in her first year at the U of A.

"I think it's really inspiring how some of these other candidates are really new on campus, and they've already seemed to acquire a lot of experience and become serious contenders for the VPA position," Yackulic said.

However, Carson's inexperience leaves her without a good grasp of the issues in the academic portfolio, Manera said.

"I want (Carson) to get more campus experience ... and then I went her to come back again and win."

Yackulic said San Ruth and Kelsey Mills both seem passionate, and would be competitive in another year, but are ultimately overshadowed by Chelen.

"I think (Mills) has thought about it a lot. She's just not at the calibre that (Chelen) is," Manera said.

Ruth's platform points of community-based learning and community service learning were generally favoured by the panel, but they agreed his overall vision was too narrow for the SU.

"I think his platform is really great for a faculty association VPA," Manera said. "He needs to run for an FA on that exact platform. The SU is just more broad than what he's looking at right now."

Will win: Dustin Chelen– three votes
Should win: Dustin Chelen – three votes



"This is actually the most exciting election I've been around for. At least three of the races have one candidate who could be a solid choice."

Vice-President (Operations and Finance)

- Andy Cheema (incumbent)
- Murtaza Jamaly
- Mike McGinn
- Jessica Nguyen

Despite Andy Cheema's status as the incumbent as Vice-President (Operations and Finance), the panel wasn't convinced that he would necessarily be the best candidate, and felt that opposing candidates Murtaza Jamaly, Jessica Nguyen and Mike McGinn could all likely get the job done just as well.

"I'm not sure you need to run two years in a row if there are other available decent candidates," Yackulic said. "All of the candidates seem capable of doing a good job, so I'm not really sure Cheema needs to run for a second term when you could have new blood in the organization."

But the panel stated that Cheema would be the most qualified for the job, considering his year of experience in the position already.

"It's an advantage, being an incumbent exec," Murphy said. "(Cheema) is good at his job, and there is no imminent reason to get rid of him. He's got an edge on other people, but it doesn't disqualify the newcomers."

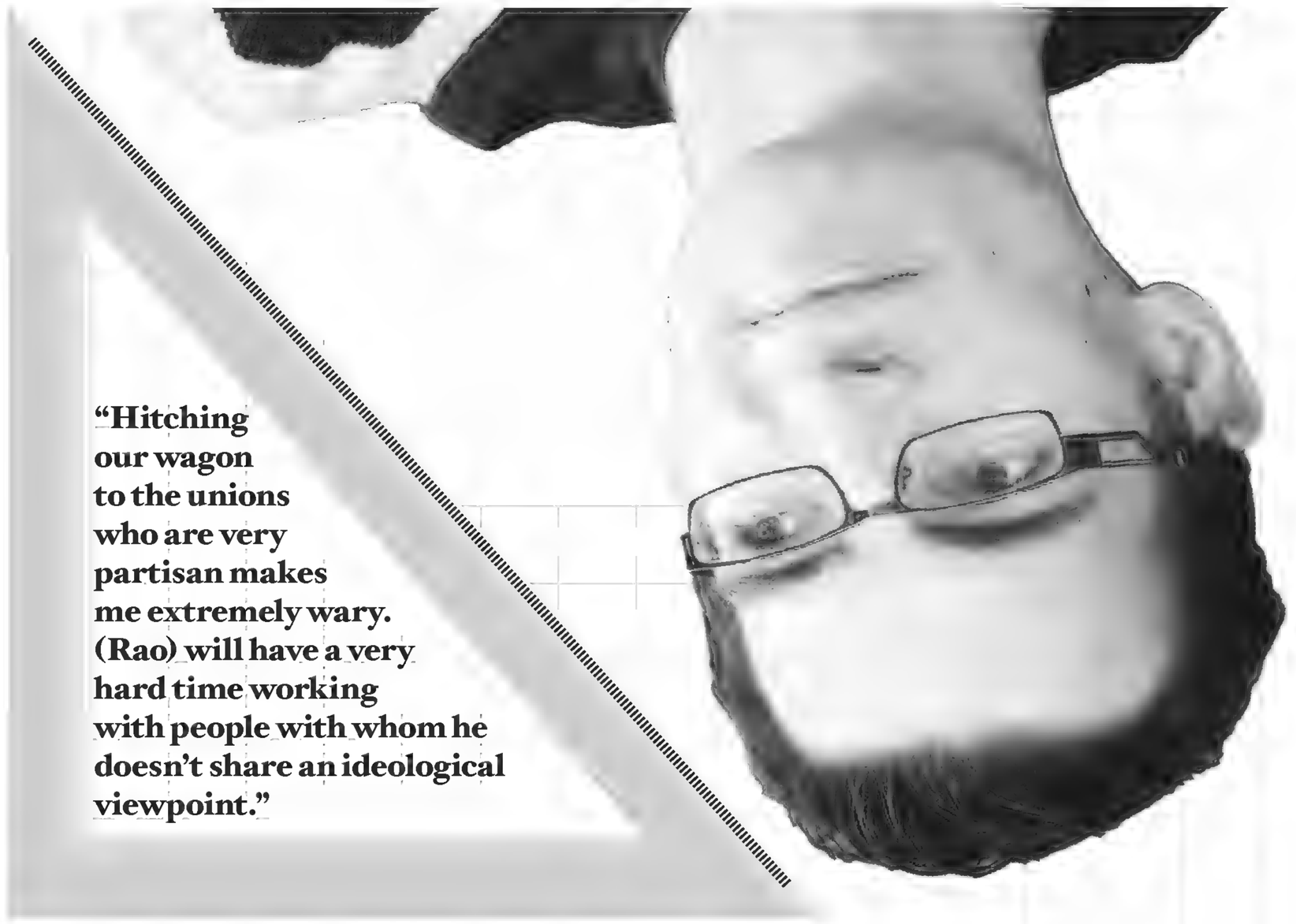
Jamaly's platform point of diversifying food options to include halal and kosher choices on campus was well-received by the panel. They also agreed that implementing groceries in SUBMart, a platform point among all the candidates, is a great idea, as well as the food policy reforms promised.

"It's fantastic," Murphy said. "As someone who's been eating in SUB for two years, we could use some better food."

Cheema aside, the panel agreed that Jamaly had the most direct experience with the position, with Nguyen a close second choice. The panel also found McGinn's ideas intriguing, particularly his desire to include social justice in the Operations and Finance portfolio.

"I think any of (the new candidates) could walk in and do a good job," Manera concluded.

Will win: Andy Cheema – three votes
Should win: Andy Cheema – one vote, Murtaza Jamaly – one vote, Undecided – one vote



Vice-President (External)

- Petros Kusmu
- Dorothy Roberts
- Adam Woods

The panel immediately noted that all three candidates for Vice-President (External) were running on very similar platforms, preventing any one candidate from standing out.

Despite similar platforms, the panel noted that Dorothy Roberts and Petros Kusmu have been running their campaigns in very different ways, with the majority favouring Kusmu's approach. They also agreed that the third candidate, Adam Woods, needed a few more years under his belt before jumping into the job.

"For me, it comes down to experience," Yackulic said. "They all seem very enthusiastic, but (Roberts) and (Kusmu) have of course been doing this for a few more years than (Woods) has."

"They all have similar platforms, because their platforms are based in policy," Manera said. "Basically, they are running on the platform of 'I will do my job,' which is quite uninspiring."

Manera said Roberts' three buzz words of accessibility, accountability and engagement were lacklustre, showing a reluctance to step outside the traditional SU mentality.

"What I really like about (Kusmu) is that he brings that kind of energy," Manera added. "He's used strong words in his campaign, and his posters have been very strong visually, and they've given an idea of what kind of executive he's going to be. I hope he follows through on that."

Murphy concluded that of the three, Roberts knows the most about the external portfolio, while Kusmu would be the best candidate in terms of reaching out to students, and Woods falls somewhere in the middle.

Will win: Petros Kusmu – three votes
Should win: Petros Kusmu – two votes, Dorothy Roberts – one vote





President

- Farid Iskandar
- Adi Rao
- Colten Yamagishi

Much of the debate among the panel was centered on the presidential race, and they failed to reach consensus on the best candidate. They agreed the vote will ultimately come down to the leadership style favoured by students.

Murphy disagreed with many of Adi Rao's platform points, including collaborating with external social justice groups, and said Rao wants the SU to engage in activities that it isn't legally allowed to do.

"Hitching our wagon to the unions who are very partisan makes me extremely wary," Murphy said. "I think (Rao) will have a very hard time working with people with whom he doesn't share an ideological viewpoint."

Murphy also said he's uncomfortable with Rao currently running for the NDP in the next provincial election, although Rao has publicly stated he would drop out of the race if elected as SU President.

Manera discounted concerns of partisanship in the SU, saying the SU has a long history of electing candidates with well-known political ideologies.

"I think (Rao) is looking at the Students' Union as a union," Manera said, noting that Rao has the "perfect storm of experience" as an advocate. "He's not looking at it as a students' association. That's a point of view I want to try. We've been working the student association for so long, so let's see how this thing works as an union."

"(Yamagishi) and (Iskandar) want kiosks," Manera continued. "Whereas (Rao) wants to do something fundamentally different ... (Iskandar) and (Yamagishi) to me are just doing the same things that we've been doing forever."

Yackulic occupied the middle ground of the debate, agreeing that the status quo hasn't proven effective in the SU. But he expressed concerns that Rao's broad vision of social justice would turn off higher levels of government.

"The government, when they hear you talk about narrow issues, they can hear where you're coming from," Yackulic said. "When you start bringing broader social justice issues that they know your whole population doesn't support, it's hard for them to take you seriously."

Although Farid Iskandar and Colten Yamagishi share similar platforms, Yackulic favoured Iskandar's, agreeing with his point of eliminating the $290 CoSSS fee rather than Yamagishi's broader vision of restricting backdoor tuition.

"I think (Yamagishi) has a much bigger presence on campus, especially after a successful year as Vice-President (Student Life), but a lot of his promises don't seem to be new and don't break the mould," Yackulic said.

Murphy agreed with Yackulic, saying that Yamagishi's idea of reigniting past promises seems "clichéd."

"(Iskandar) knows the issues better, and I think he's better able to manage the organization."

But Manera said Iskandar lost her at the SUBStage forum, where he claimed that students don't have much of a voice in the senate committee that decided to award the Nestlé chairman with an honorary degree.

"He's not willing to use the chair he has to do something," Manera argued, referring to Iskandar's seat in the senate. "He's not going to fight for my rights ... If the SU wanted to take a position on this issue, they could have, and he basically just said they couldn't have.

"The formula that the Students' Union is using is broken," Manera added. "We've been electing the same people to the same positions. Let's elect something new."

As for the largely absent joke candidate, Big Notorious, Manera summed up his candidacy in one sentence: "That's the worst joke candidate of all time."

Will win: Colten Yamagishi – one vote, Farid Iskandar – one vote, Undecided – one vote
Should win: Farid Iskandar – two votes, Adi Rao – one vote

Spring/Summer U-Pass

No debate was needed for the panel to determine that the spring/summer U-Pass would be a valuable service to students.

Yackulic, however, has some reservations about the pass, noting that many students use other methods of transportation to campus during the summer months. He also pointed to contradicting campaign material that made it difficult to determine whether the $116 fee would be charged per term or from May-August.

Manera clarified the fee would be charged per term, and declared the U-Pass as "one of the best things the Students' Union has ever done."

"I know in my spring term, people were complaining about that," Manera said. "They were all saying, 'Man, I want a U-Pass.'"

"Honestly, if you take spring and summer term courses, it just makes sense," she added.

Yes vote: three votes

SUB Building Fee

Murphy declined to comment on the $9 SUB building fee, as he felt this would constitute a conflict of interest due to his involvement in the referendum.

Yackulic and Manera liked the fact that the lower level of SUB would get actual sunlight through the proposed expansion plan, but Manera was disappointed that plans don't include a new venue in SUB.

"I'm all for a SUB expansion. Space is one of those things the Students' Union provides to its members," Manera said. "The only thing I'm really bummed about is not getting a new venue."

The new sexual diversity centre that will likely be built in the lower level of SUB was also an initiative Manera found exciting.

"I like the look of the concept," Yackulic added. "It looks like a pretty solid plan, and $9 isn't that big an increase. I think it's disturbing that, in combination with PAW, it's kind of certain that we're approving increases for future students that we won't be paying ourselves. That being said, it is a really small fee."

YES vote: two votes





You've seen the posters around campus encouraging you to vote. Now check out what our expert panel has to say about them. Not about the election, but about the posters. The horrible, horrible posters. And in order to put those horrible designers in their place, we've made it our mandate to tear them apart (verbally, of course, not literally).

Our panel this year consisted of Madeline Smith, Ryan Bromsgrove, Darcy Ropchan, Tyler Hein, Sam Brooks and Ross Vincent

PRESIDENT

ADI RAO



Ryan: My first impression is this is someone's trigonometry homework.
Madeline: Very true.
Darcy: And the military-style lettering?
Madeline: Yeah, what is up with that?
Ross: And does he not know how hyphens work?

Ross: Also the photo is extended beyond this second black line.
Darcy: That'll shave 10 points off.
Sam: We're giving points? I've been assigning gold stars.

Madeline: It's all about wanting to actively do things that are technically already in policy.
Tyler: He won't passively do nothing.
Ryan: Is opposing tuition hikes really a platform point?
Madeline: "Actively oppose," I think that means get really mad about it, more than people do now.
Ryan: Yeah, well, what's he going to do?
Madeline: Who knows!
Sam: He's going to stand there when people are paying their fees and tell them not to do it?
Madeline: I am kind of worried about the weird army lettering. It seems strange.
Darcy: Every time I see it I think of that song "War, What is it Good For?"

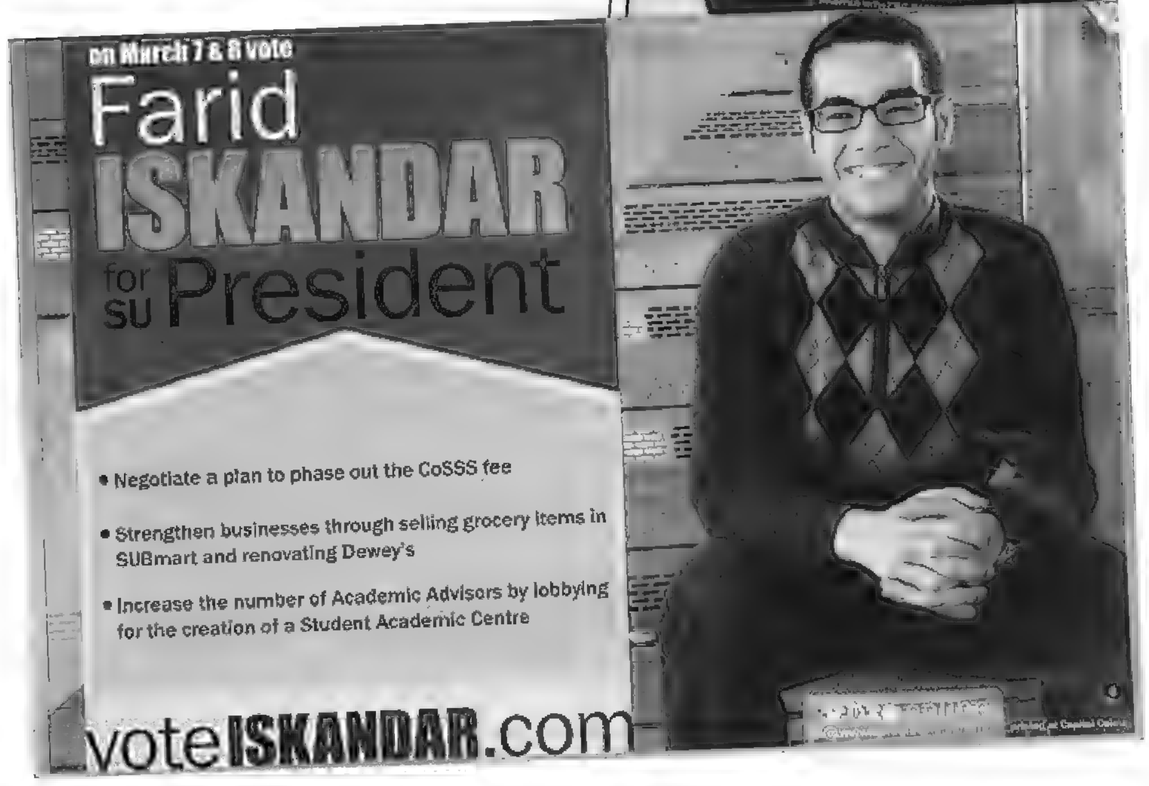
Darcy: It's better than his god-awful, hand-drawn banner in SUB though.
Madeline: Yeah, that one is so creepy.
Darcy: The chin hair. Oh god, the chin hair!

Madeline: Looks like an okay photo of him, though.
Ryan: Yeah. He's looking at you.
Madeline: He looks happy.
Ryan: He's paying attention.
Madeline: He looks approachable, despite these other things on the other side with the military lettering and whatnot.
Sam: So if you fold his poster in half, he's a happy guy.
Madeline: Yep. Other side: very angry.

WEBSITE

Sam: It looks like he has more beard on this photo.
Madeline: It's an old photo, his hair is shorter here.
Sam: How hard is it to get a new photo taken?
Ryan: It looks like he got a new photo taken for the poster.
Madeline: Yeah, I don't really understand why this old photo is there but... it's what he did!
Ryan: Maybe when it was taken several years ago he was like, "One day... this is going to be the photo on my presidential website." And never broke this promise to himself.

Sam: He has a Picasa page? Oh, more photos of him. There seems to be a lot of unnecessary stuff on this website.
Darcy: There's a lot of pictures of him giving speeches, so you know he's presidential.
Tyler: They were probably taken in his backyard with a podium.
Darcy: Yeah, and he just hired all his friends to stand around.



FARID ISKANDAR

Madeline: That photo's a vast improvement over last year.
Ross: He doesn't have words coming out of him.
Madeline: With different fonts all over it.
Ryan: He's stuck to just a couple fonts here.
Sam: Not 10 million.

Darcy: Like the folded hands, too?
Sam: He looks like someone I would want to go and chat with, argyle sweater included.



Ross: He looks comfortable.
Tyler: What would you chat to him about?
Ryan: My feelings.
Darcy: It's like Mr. Rogers. He's got the sweater,
Ryan: "Oh hi, Farid, how's it going?"
Ross: "Howdy neighbour. Just running for president."

Madeline: It looks like a photo that'd be in a pamphlet about tourism. Come visit the U of A!
Darcy: Or like a guy who would teach you about sex education.
Ross: "Hey guys, let's rap about STDs."
Darcy: "I know what you're thinking! Square ol' Mr. Iskandar can't teach you anything about sex!"

Sam: You know what I want to tell him? "Get off the stairs. You're blocking the stairs."
Ryan: "I'm trying to get up!"
Darcy: What you can't see there are all the people—
Tyler: —the disgruntled students.
Ross: "Hey there, voter! Trying to get up the stairs, eh?"
Ryan: "Yes! I'm trying to get to class, I have an exam!"
Ross: "Well, that's very interesting."

WEBSITE

Sam: He's like the anti-Adi. Adi's website had far too many photos on, this one has one.
Ross: He kind of reminds me of *Flight of the Conchords.*
Darcy: Yeah, Jemaine, except he doesn't have the sideburns.
Ryan: But he can't use "It's business time."
Ross: Already taken!

COLTEN YAMAGISHI

Ryan: He's a wizard.
Sam: No, he's like a mythical sea-god.
Madeline: He's Sauron!
Darcy: No, Emperor Palpatine!
Ryan: He's all of these things!

Ross: On his poster, I see his name, I know it's for President, it's kind of Star Warsy...
Darcy: "I'm afraid the SU will be quite operational when your friends arrive."
Ross: "You want this... don't you?"
Darcy: "Strike me down with it."

Sam: Will he reignite the promises with his lightning hands?
Ryan: Is he going to reignite our campus musical?
Sam: Colten, you promised us!
Ryan: Why would he say "reignite past promises" and ignore the campus musical?
Ross: That just sounds to me like he's going to burn any evidence of any promises.
Ryan: "What campus musical, what are you talking about?"

Ryan: The three things under "reignite" are the Fall Reading Week, which is still moving forward, the PAW Centre, which is still moving forward, and the Powerplant... which is still moving forward. I'm not sure "reignite" is the right word.
Madeline: "Keep doing these things."

Madeline: This whole poster looks so sinister. Look at all of this darkness, and scary colours.
Ross: I just don't like how he's shooting himself with the lightning.
Sam: Maybe he's catching the lightning.
Tyler: Maybe the lightning is coming out of him and he's harnessing it.
Madeline: He looks so happy, but the lightning looks so menacing.
Sam: He's an evil genius!

WEBSITE

Darcy: It's interesting to mention that on his website he's holding his hand out with no lightning.
Ross: "Spare a dime, guys?"
Madeline: "Take my hand!"
Ryan: He's just standing in a room.
Tyler: He can't fly into the clouds? What a liar.
Ross: They could have Photoshopped him holding anything.
Darcy: Photoshop a giant dick into his hand.
Tyler: Which is just kind of weird, because it's going to be a floating dick and he'll be stoked.

Sam: Whoa, the little icon for the website is also his face!
Madeline: Nice. I also appreciate "vote Yam."
Sam: Makes me want to eat yams.
Ross: Exactly, it makes you want to go to RATT and get some Yam fries.
Tyler: Rejuvenating SU business!

Darcy: "Backdoor tuition." That just sounds dirty.
Ryan: Let's go to the backdoor tuition part of the website.
Tyler: It's the X-rated part.
Darcy: You must be 18 years or older and provide a valid credit card number.

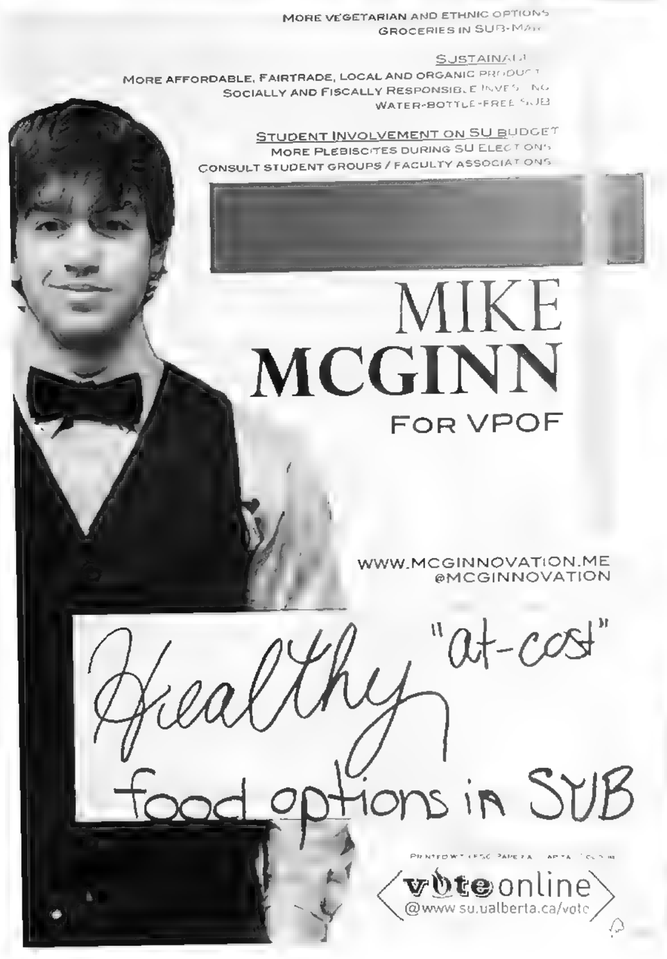
VICE PRESIDENT (OPS FI)

MUSTAFA JAMALY

Madeline: I feel like there's an earthquake or something happening when I look at this poster.
Ryan: It's the angle—
Sam: So many angles
Ryan: —and the earthy texture in the background.
Tyler: Everything's askew, but he's straight.
Darcy: His body language tells me that he's closed.
Madeline: Look at that tie he's wearing. That thing is like, take no prisoners.

Tyler: Why isn't his tagline "Hot Jamaly? Why hasn't that happened yet?





WEBSITE

Ryan: If you mouse over "vote," you get "Click here Sara!"
Ross: Who's Sara? I think that's the real question of this campaign.
Ryan: What have you done with Sara!
Darcy: Is that his girlfriend, or something?
Ryan: Does this mean only Sara can vote?
Sam: He's really limited himself, there.



JESSICA NGUYEN

Tyler: Her face is huge.
Ross: It looks like she's graduating.
Madeline: Her head seems to be tilted in a weird way.
Sam: "Rejuvenate SU businesses." It sounds like she wants to put a spa in SUB.
Madeline: That'd be cool.
Tyler: "Aw, I failed a midterm. Time to go to the spa."
Darcy: "Mud bath."

Darcy: When she says "drive SUB renovations" it sounds like she's going to put on a hard hat and do them herself.
Ross: She's so skilled that running for Ops Fi is slumming.

MIKE MCGINN

Darcy: I've said it before, and I'll say it again: he looks like a blackjack dealer at a leprechaun casino.
Sam: I was going to say banquet server.
Ross: "McGinn! Hand out these hors d'oeuvres."
Darcy: "Would you like to sample our wine today, sir?"
Ryan: "Hey, I'm good with money, I worked at a casino."
Darcy: "For leprechauns."
Tyler: "There's gold everywhere!"

Tyler: That picture's amazing.
Ross: Is he grabbing his junk?

Sam: I want to find out if that's a real bow tie or not. If that is not a real bow tie, he's lost my vote.
Madeline: Is it real or is it clip on?
Tyler: It looks clipped on.
Sam: Answer us, McGinn! We need a VP who can tie a real bow tie.





ANDY CHEEMA

Madeline: I really like these, but then the longer I stare at it the weirder it looks to me.
Sam: You kidding? That poster freaks me out.
Tyler: It's terrifying.
Sam: When I see that on a wall, I jump. Holy shit, Cheema is watching me.
Tyler: You turn a corner and — oh, fuck! Cheema!

Ross: "Green means money. I know money. I have half a face. You want to see the other half? You've got to vote for me."
Ryan: As you're casting your ballot, you can picture that face looking over your shoulder. "Hey, you voting for me?"

Darcy: I'd say he has the whitest teeth of all the candidates.
Tyler: Even Saadiq?
Madeline: Jessica's giving him a run for his money, maybe.
Ryan: Ah! "Run for his *money*!"

WEBSITE

Ryan: First of all on the website, we have the same picture and layout. But if you click on platform, or any of the others...
Sam: You get giant 3D text!
Ryan: And tiny Cheema!
Darcy: Interesting fact: he is actually that tall in real life.
Sam: I want to know where he stashed these letters.
Ross: I want to carry him around in my pocket. He'd give me sound financial advice.
Tyler: "Should I buy this, pocket Cheema?"
Ross: "Should I get a breakfast scone?"
Sam: Why does tiny Cheema need to be standing by the letters? Why can't he be sitting on the "H"?
Darcy: Or laying across them?
Ryan: Or actually *be* the letters?
Sam: Yes. I want to see the word "Cheema" made out of Cheemas.





VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

QUETZALA CARSON

Madeline: This photo was put through an Instagram filter, I feel.
Darcy: Or like when you go to a convenience store in a small town and they have those posters up in the windows that are burnt out from the sun.

Sam: Her slogan's backwards. Shouldn't it be, "A vote for Q is a vote for you?"

WEBSITE

Darcy: Know what my favourite thing about her website is? Can we talk about her Twitter feed and how she doesn't know how hashtags work?
Sam: That's a lot of hashtags.
Darcy: In one of the hashtags she spelled "girl" as "gurl," so she lost my vote.
Sam: She just gained my vote. But in "bro's" she used an apostrophe wrong. Nevermind, she lost my vote.
Darcy: "Super excited to #finally announce I'm running for Vice" — learn how hashtags work.

KELSEY MILLS

Ryan: First of all, I just want to say the flowers at the sides make it look like she put this picture through Blingee first.
Madeline: I feel like this looks like an engagement pose. The camera angle from the top and looking up at it.
Sam: Well many candidates are running on a platform of engagement. She has that with the photo.
Madeline: She just looks so pure. Pure and sweet.
Sam: There's a ridiculous amount of innocence in this poster.
Tyler: There needs to be a rainbow in the background. And at the end of the rainbow, it's McGinn.

Madeline: "Encourage the university to help make students more employable upon graduation." What does that mean?
Darcy: Instead of earning arts degrees we all just get science degrees.
Tyler: We're all engineers now.

WEBSITE

Ryan: The image gets cut off on the About page.
Ross: "Kelsey for VP: Acad." A cad, you say!
Darcy: A cat? I want a cat.
Tyler: The Vice President of Cats.

SAN RUTH

Ross: All the colours of the rainbow: grey and vomit green.
Darcy: He's missing shit brown and urine yellow.

Madeline: This apostrophe thing is pretty impressive. Although I don't really understand what its supposed to be for.
Sam: Is that an apostrophe or is it a semi-colon?
Tyler: It looks like a nine.
Ross: It looks like a foot — oh no, it's a fist. It's a fist.
All: Whoa.
Ross: It's an apostrofist. Trademarked.
Ryan: He's going to punch academia in the face.

Madeline: San is too clever for me, I didn't understand. But now I see. I see.

Darcy: "Essentially academics is trying to teach you how to problem solve but sometimes the best way to problem solve is to go out and solve problems."
Tyler: That was the most brilliant thing ever said.
Darcy: "I'm in med school, but instead of class I'm just going to start operating on people now."
Ross: "It's the only way I'll learn!"
Sam: "I'll just figure it out as I go along."
Darcy: "What's that, neurosurgery? I can improvise."

Darcy: I want to buy a quote book from San Ruth so I can read it every morning.
Ross: He's just doing the campaign to make a tear-away calendar.

DUSTIN CHELEN

Darcy: Are you Chelen? I'm Chelen.
Ross: Gellin' with Chelen.

Madeline: I think you're right about the Dragonball Z hair.
Ryan: I want him to power up before the speeches, just spend five minutes going "huaaaaaargh!"
Tyler: The whole debate's just him yelling.
Darcy: "Kamehameha!"

Madeline: We got more red and green. Dustin, what were you doing! It's like Christmas time.

Ryan: Here he is outside the old arts building, wrapped up warm.
Ross: He's totally about academia.
Madeline: I feel like he should be in a catalogue for Sears or something.
Sam: It looks a little classier than Sears. I don't think Sears sells that kind of peacoat.

Ross: He also looks like he's in Slytherin.
Darcy: His scarf is U of A colours, though.
Sam: But it's not a U of A scarf.

VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

SAADIQ SUMAR

Sam: "Vote Saadiq!" It really screams at you.
Madeline: Three different posters and his hat is in a different orientation in all of them.
Darcy: And he's got a huge grin on his face in all three posters.
Darcy: Look at his badass watch, that is amazing. It's not even a watch, it looks like a turntable.
Sam: It looks like a sun dial.

Ryan: The smile basically says: "I'm the only one running for this position. You got no options." And here's that word. "Communication."
All: Yay.

Darcy: It says, "Holding university accountable of living conditions." Shouldn't that be "for living conditions?"
All: Uh oh.
Sam: Does Saadiq subscribe to some rule where you must capitalize every word in a sentence?
Darcy: "Smaller events during Lull periods." What are lull periods?
Tyler: Maybe we can have smaller games of dodgeball.
Ryan: Lol periods?
Darcy: No.
Ryan: Well nevermind then.
Ross: I was looking forward to having lol periods.

WEBSITE

Sam: The banner is falling apart on his website.
Ryan: There's transparent stripes all over. Did someone just discover photoshop and say, "I'm going to do all of the things."

Darcy: Are the postcards going to be personalized? "I spent my entire summer writing postcards to all of you."
Ross: As soon as summer's over he starts working on Christmas.
Darcy: All these photos are the same. He's Saadiqing you.
Ryan: You've just been Saadiqed.
Sam: You realize we just gave him his tagline for the year.
Darcy: Saadiq, every time you say that you have to pay me 25 cents.



VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

PETROS KUSMU

Madeline: Petros looks like a professor. And he's holding a pen!
Darcy: The only thing he's missing is a pipe.
Ryan: And he's already in the library. It's like he was studying and someone came up and tapped him on the shoulder and he said, "Oh hey. I was just studying."

Darcy: He's in the Harry Potter room, which will score him big points with nerds.
Madeline: He's got a tweed jacket, a sweater and a bow tie.
Ryan: He's got his textbooks, but they have the library stickers on them.
Madeline: Yeah he probably should have turned them over.
Ross: No he needed to show the spines.
Madeline: He could have turned them the other way.
Sam: Then the books would be upside down!
Madeline: I wonder what books these are? I wonder if they just went into Rutherford and said, "What is the first thing we can find that looks academic?"
Ross: I'm pretty sure he didn't read any of those.

Tyler: We'll have to ask him. "Did you read those book, sir? No?"

Ryan: The text that really jumps out at you is: "Tuition! Was $1,620 in 1975."
Sam: In 2011 Canadian dollars.
Ross: "Some things are better old school." Well he's looking pretty old school over there.
Sam: He needs scotch. This photo is lacking scotch.
Madeline: Yeah, he needs a cigar too.
Darcy: Or a cigarette between his fingers instead of a pen.

Ross: He's just radiating class in this photo. I don't like that italic script font though. But I like the fact that he doesn't have a last name.
Tyler: I want to know who he is so bad.
Sam: I bet if you turned a little bit there would probably be a fireplace in the corner and a bear skin rug.
Darcy: Or one of those bear heads on a mount.
Ryan: And then some soft music just starts playing.
Tyler: Slow jazz all the time, it just follows him around wherever he goes.
Sam: This makes me think that the U of A is going to be relocated to a ski lodge.

Ryan: He also has another poster with him wearing boxing gloves and it makes me want to fight him, but in a good way.
Darcy: He would let you win
Ryan: Yeah! He would let me win!

DOROTHY ROBERTS

Darcy: It looks like she saw a bird fly by, or something shiny and it caught her attention.
Tyler: They only had one photo.
Madeline: This is the look-into-the-future grad pose they make you do in high school.
Ryan: I think what happened is that she and Rebecca Taylor were both in CCIS in the same time and Rebecca was on the other side of the balcony. And then Dorothy Roberts was like, "is that Rebecca Taylor? Dammit, that was my last shot!"

Sam: That pose looks like she's operating a row boat.
Ross: She's rowing us to a better future. Away from that shark she apparently sees.
Darcy: I know that's CCIS, but that looks like Pearson airport in Toronto.
Madeline: She flew all the way out there to take that one photo.

WEBSITE

Ryan: If you mouse over to "pages," you get this massive document about her platform in bigger font than the actual menu header.

Darcy: She has links to all the other candidates websites. Like the progressive insurance company.

Madeline: There's lots of photos of her actually looking at the camera this time.
Ryan: Her website is on tumblr so we should note that she also gets the hipster award.
Darcy: I don't know, Petros is a big contender for that hipster award though.
Ryan: But he only has Facebook.
Darcy: But Petros is dressed more like a hipster though.
Madeline: But Dorothy is wearing a cardigan. She's trying.

ADAM WOODS

Ryan: When it comes to Adam Woods, who's going to be the first to say it?
Darcy: He looks like Andy Samberg.
Ryan: He does.
Tyler: It's beautiful.
Ryan: He's going to take your vote and throw it on the ground.
Darcy: He does the creep, and he does it like a boss. But does he know that he looks like Andy Samberg?
Tyler: What if he looks in a mirror afterwards and says: "What is everybody talking about? I don't see it."
Ryan: "Who is Andy Samberg? What do you mean have I ever been on a boat?"
Darcy: "Why do people keep asking me if I just had sex?"

Madeline: I just don't get it. It's like he's smiling but not really. And there's kind of a vacant look on his face.
Tyler: It looks like he was startled by the camera.
Darcy: It looks like a drivers licence photo.
Ryan: "Stand here, no emotion."
Madeline: It's a passport photo.

Madeline: And once again he's got no first name. Just Woods.
Darcy: You want some wood?
Ross: It's "Woods" so you want more than one.

WEBSITE

Darcy: Can we just make Andy Samberg Jokes for the next five minutes?

Ryan: Let's go to the website.
Sam: Purple!
Ross: A much better purple.
Ryan: He's outside
Madeline: His hair is windswept.
Ross: He's wearing another purple sweater. Did he have a Mike McGinn moment where he said, "what colour are most of my shirts? Purple!"

Sam: I'd say his website is on par with the poster. Very boring.
Darcy: He looks angrier on his website than he does in his poster.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS REP

REBECCA TAYLOR

Ryan: She does not look very happy.
Darcy: She could not look less interested to be in that photo.
Ross: She's like, "Why are you looking at me?"
Tyler: It's the fear vote. She needs it.
Madeline: One of her platform points is to change images.
Ross: Is it the image in the poster?
Darcy: Who would want to build a strong relationship with someone who looks so angry?
Madeline: I guess she looks very serious. Like "I'm qualified for the Board of Governors because I'm a serious person."
Ryan: She means business.
Sam: I think she means too much business.
Darcy: Her face looks like when you do something bad, and your mom says she's not mad at you, just disappointed.
Ross: What did I do?
Tyler: Why can't I ever appease you, Rebecca Taylor?

Ryan: She's also on the same balcony in CCIS that everyone else took their photo on.
Ross: Vote for me; there's stairs.

Tyler: She's laying the foundation.
Darcy: Look how casual she is because she has her arm on the railing.
Madeline: She's just hanging out on campus.

Darcy: A vote for Rebecca Taylor is a vote against fun.
Madeline: If you don't vote for her she will be disappointed.
Darcy: She looks disappointed anyways.

BRENT KELLY

Ryan: It looks like he's seen something off-camera that he's kind of amused by.
Sam: He's the complete opposite of Rebecca Taylor. He's got the general smugness to his look.
Madeline: I feel like Brent has the Stephen Harper hair going on in this photo.
Tyler: He looks like the shittiest secret agent ever.
Madeline: He smiles more in the other poster. In this one it looks like they caught him halfway through smiling.

Tyler: It seems like all these candidates couldn't get a second photo. It's like they didn't have time. They have change to make.
Ross: They only had enough money for one photo.

Ryan: Also in the poster is his Triple A platform.
All: ADVOCACY.
ACCOUNTABILITY. ACTION.
Sam: He doesn't look like he's enticing enough action to me.
Ross: He's not moving.

Ryan: The unfortunate thing about this poster is that it's very hard to tell what he is running for.
Darcy: It's also very dark too.
Ross: It does say what he's running for but it's black text on a dark background.
Tyler: Why does that shadow want me to vote for him?

WEBSITE

Ryan: The first thing I want to note about the website is that it doesn't work in Opera.
Madeline: At least you can see that he's running for Board of Governors much more easily.
Ryan: He's also very happy to be standing next to the mosaic of the SU logo.
Darcy: He's got his looking into the future pose for his Facebook photo as well.
Ross: Hey look, it's the future!
Darcy: And his little photo on Facebook is a picture of the Occupy protest.
Ryan: Has he been involved with that?

Ryan: So his website has his platform and goals. Basically he just wants to be really mad at the Board of Governors because he thinks they'll listen to him.
Darcy: So between Rebecca Taylor and Brent Kelly, one looks mad and says they'll be happy, and the other looks happy and says they'll be mad.
Ryan: It's like they got something mixed up.
Sam: They should combine the two and make a super candidate.
Darcy: Whoever wins, we lose.

Ryan: It's time to send the BoG a message. And that message is? "Please don't be mean."
Tyler: "We're very fragile, be nice."

AWARDS

Best Poster: Petros Kusmu
Worst Poster: Rebecca Taylor
Best Watch: Saadiq Sumar
Biggest Mindfuck: San Ruth
Hugest Face: Andy Cheema
Best Andy Samberg: Adam Woods

Check out *www.thegatewayonline.ca* for the Poster Slam podcast!

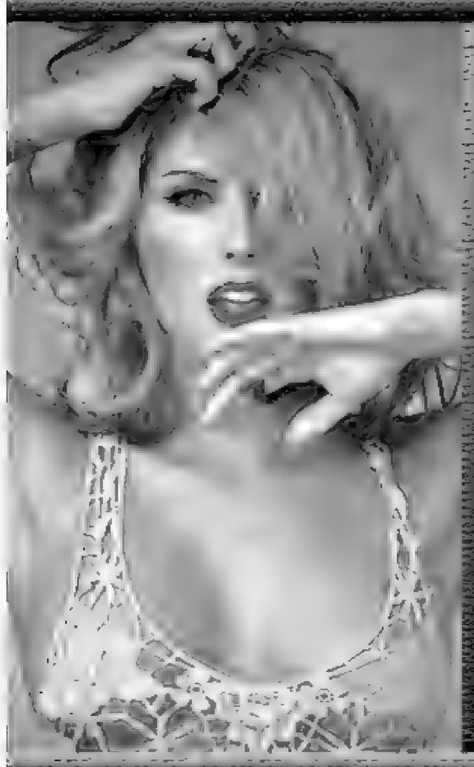



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social intercourse

COMPILED BY Alana Willerton
CAN'T EAT GLUTEN TEETH

Machotaildrop

Presented by the Edmonton Skateboard Association
Written and directed by Corey Adams and Alex Craig
Starring Anthony Amedori, Lukács Bicskey and Guy Faulkner
Saturday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Myer Horowitz Theatre (SUB)
$10 in advance at Queue or FS Skateboards and Snowboards, $7 at the door with a donation to the campus food bank

Described as a cross between *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Lords of Dogtown*, *Machotaildrop* is the story of amateur skateboarder Walter Rhum (Anthony Amedori), who wants to become a professional rider for the biggest skateboard company in the world. After years of practice, Walter gets his big break with the company only to discover that everything is not quite as it seems. All proceeds from the film screening go to the McKernan Skate Spot Project to raise money for a new skateboarding park in Edmonton. There will also be the premieres of two more films, *Naughty Boyz* and *Traumatized Till Snow*.

Alberta Mistresses of the Modern: 1935-1875

Guest-curated by Mary-Beth Laviolette
Exhibit opens Saturday, March 10
Art Gallery of Alberta
(2 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
$8.50 admission

One of the latest exhibits to arrive at the Art Gallery of Alberta is showcasing the role of women in establishing the abstract and modern art scene in Alberta throughout the 20th century. Featuring more than 80 works, Alberta Mistresses of The Modern focuses on the artwork of 10 different female artists whose works have contributed to the reputation of Alberta's vivid arts community. From paintings and prints to sculptures, ceramics and mosaics, the exhibit demonstrates the important role of women in art on a local level.

Eames: The Architect and the Painter

Presented by M.A.D.E. in Edmonton
Written by Jason Cohn
Directed by Jason Cohn and Bill Jersey
Starring James Franco
Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m.
Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)
$5 admission

Widely regarded as America's most important designers, Charles and Ray Eames have played a quintessential role in the creation of American culture through their work as architects and designers. While their major contributions to society remain their modern architecture and furniture, the husband-and-wife team has also gained recognition for their work in graphic design, fine art and film. In the first documentary about their lives, *Eames: The Architect and the Painter* examines the lesser-known aspects of the duos' personal lives and their rise in popularity. Narrated by James Franco, the film also discusses the influence the Eames couple had on American life and the development of the modernism movement, providing a portrait of their lives two decades after their deaths.

Calgary songstress Samantha Savage Smith embraces her Alberta roots

MUSIC PREVIEW

Samantha Savage Smith

WITH ▸ Liam Trimble and Alex Vissia
WHEN ▸ Wednesday, March 14 at 9 p.m.
WHERE ▸ New Wunderbar Hofbrauhaus (8120 101 St.)
HOW MUCH ▸ $7 at the door

Chris Gee
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @CHRISGGGGGG

Waiting at a local venue in Calgary to speak with singer-songwriter Samantha Savage Smith, a large group of people arrive and sit at a front-and-centre table reserved for "Smith." A native of the city, Smith's Calgary show obviously carries some homecoming pride, taking on the feeling of a family reunion rather than a concert.

When Smith finally arrives — a few minutes late after some extra rehearsing with a new drummer and time spent packing up the tour van — her passion for sharing her music with close friends and family is immediately obvious. Throughout the interview, she gets distracted by her band setting up their gear on stage without her and people greeting her from across the room, always responding with a giggle and a warm smile.

Born and raised in Calgary, Smith released her debut album *Tough Cookie* last year and is embarking on her longest national tour this winter. With distribution from indie heavyweight label Arts & Crafts, Smith's smooth and sultry voice is only just beginning to get heard beyond our provincial borders, even though she's been performing the songs from her latest album for years around Alberta. But while some artists get tired of playing the same material over and over, Smith is always excited to perform for an eager crowd.

"We've just been rehearsing every day, over and over," Smith says. "And it can get kind of like, 'We've played this a million times!' But when you play a live show, it's an entirely different experience. No matter if you get bored of playing the song you're playing, in front of people, that feeling totally dissipates."

Despite only being in her early 20s, Smith is already something of a veteran in the Calgary music scene. Nodding towards her father setting up gear onstage, Smith credits him for getting her into music at an early age. From there, her dusty and seemingly aged croon eventually caught the eye of Lorrie Matheson, a prominent music producer based in the Calgary area.

"I started playing guitar when I was like 11 or 12. I started (taking) jazz vocal lessons around the same age and I played in crummy bands throughout high school. I just kept writing, and then one day I moved out to Vancouver and didn't write for a while — but then I came back and started writing songs again," Smith says.

"I put demos up online and Lorrie Matheson heard them and came to see me play live one time, and he was like, 'Hey, I want to make you a record' — so we made (*Tough Cookie*) and everything that's happened since is basically because of that fateful day."

Though Smith often sings with from a sombre perspective, her brand of heart-on-the-sleeve guitar songs can get playful enough for a solid slow-to-fast dance number. This type of variety in her sound make a Samantha Savage Smith set an unusual experience.

"My shows are weird — it's either really chill and people are like, 'Yeah I'm just listening,' or then other times — I don't know if it's us and how we're playing — but sometimes it's like these bangers, and everyone's drunk and wants to dance. It's a super party," Smith laughs.

For a lot of Albertan artists, this type of excitement and hype can be hard to come by outside the province. This means local musical talent frequently moves away to larger cities like Toronto or Montreal in attempt to get recognized by larger music labels and critics. Smith understands this desire, but plans to stay in Alberta, where she's already made significant strides in her career.

"I don't think there's anything wrong with people moving away. But when you always have people leaving it's no longer as saturated anymore ... that's the downfall," Smith says. "I really admire people who just stay here the whole time who don't plan on leaving and I mean sometimes you just have to do it. People just want to be in more creative hubs.

"But personally, I love Calgary," she says. "I'm pretty happy here. I go away enough that it's nice to come home to."

Home, after all, is where Smith finds the most support. Onstage, amidst her bandmates moving gear, her father also helps set up, accidentally fumbling her signature red guitar and sending it crashing onto the stage.

"Dad, stop breaking my stuff!" Smith shouts, excusing herself from the interview as she teases her father.

"I'm gonna go yell at my dad for dropping my guitar."



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-Hanson, "MMMBop" (1997)

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SUPPLIED: UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA MUSEUMS

New U of A museums exhibit uncovers winter artifacts

ART PREVIEW

Cool Stuff: The U of A Museums Do Winter

WHEN ▸ Runs until Saturday, March 31
WHERE ▸ Faculty of Extension at Enterprise Square (10230 101 Ave.)

Charlotte Forss
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

It's March in Edmonton, and most of us already have one eye on spring, trying to forget the vast snowdrifts still lingering outside our doors. To combat the weariness of our longest season, the University of Alberta Museums' latest exhibit, Cool Stuff, showcases some of the more appealing sides of the cold. As one of the largest collecting institutions in the country, the U of A has 28 collections of different historical, artistic and scientific artifacts distributed in locations across campus, but not all are available to the public. This winter exhibit brings some of the 17 million objects in storage out into the open.

"Winter is a fact of life for us in Edmonton, of course," Jim Corrigan, one of the exhibit's curators, acknowledges. "But revolving around winter was also a way to include examples from a lot of the museums and collections at the university that have objects or works of art — ethnographic, scientific, whatever — that have an aspect of winter about them."

In addition to encouraging Edmontonians to celebrate the winter climate we live in, Cool Stuff provides the chance to look at an incredible variety of objects, from textiles to biological specimens. Corrigan says the artwork is mostly self-explanatory in terms of its connection to winter, featuring snow-covered landscapes and buildings, but some objects' ties to the exhibit's theme are less obvious: fallen meteorites made visible by the snow, overwintering species of butterflies and dinosaur bones collected in winter. The season, Corrigan says, can actually be a vehicle for discoveries that are unreachable during the rest of the year.

"There are issues of access to certain areas," he says. "It's like in the oil industry, sometimes you can only get to certain places in winter because it's frozen."

While visual art and human-crafted objects are often at the centre of museum exhibits, the Cool Stuff display takes the unusual step of including scientific specimens alongside the paintings and artifacts. By placing the bones of prehistoric animals, stuffed specimens and unusual biological remains like a narwhal tusk next to historical and artistic items, the exhibit's curators hope to both promote the diversity of the university's collections and to change people's perceptions of the objects themselves.

"We were trying to pique people's interest — to think about things in an esthetic way," Corrigan says. "It's a fairly nicely designed exhibit, so we want people to look at (the specimens) as objects and also to think about what they might mean to you. A jar of pickled fish might not mean too much (on its own), but it has an important role to play in teaching and research at the university."

Another contribution to this marriage of scientific specimens and artistic items is a video created by John Acorn — better known as "John the Nature Nut," a well-known Edmonton naturalist with a popular TV series. Acorn's film shows the movements of fish below the surface of the ice covering small Alberta lakes and ponds. In keeping with the theme of the Cool Stuff exhibit, the video represents a combination of the esthetics of art and science. "There's this nice filtered light — it feels like an art video," Corrigan says.

While winter dominates the exhibit, there's hope for an end to the harsh season too. Among the art is a set of prints made for the ancient Japanese *Tale of Genji*, supposedly the world's oldest novel. In the midst of the prints is one that's decidedly unwintery, with blossoms and running water. Corrigan smiles.

"Our designer asked us to put in one thing about spring."

ALBUM REVIEW



Young Liars
Homesick Future
Nettwerk Music
youngliars.ca

Katherine Speur
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @KATHERINESPEUR

This band is indeed a group of young liars. While they lead the listener to believe their debut EP *Homesick Future* is worthwhile, a few listens prove otherwise. While it may not be horrifically offensive to the ears, the recording feels and sounds unoriginal and boring.

Right from off the bat, "Echoists" evokes the feeling of entering the abyss of Urban Outfitters. The mix of synth-pop and rock guitars creates an intriguing sound, but it starts to feel bland quickly. Lead singer Jordan Raine's unintelligible words and whiny voice contribute to the overall irritating effect of each song.

Though the tracks seem catchy at first, they quickly become repetitive, transforming into an annoying mesh of sounds. Young Liars wants to tap into the popularity of dance music, but their contribution to the genre is unsuccessful. The music on *Homesick Future* isn't painful, but it's not gratifying either. The EP simply has nothing new to offer. Rather than an urge to jump on a bed or dance wildly along with the melodies, it inspires more of an urge to switch it off all together.

Exploring new artistic ground with the art of the human body

THEATRE PREVIEW

Expanse Movement Arts Festival

PRESENTED BY > Azimuth Theatre

WHEN > Runs Thursday, March 8 Sunday, March 11

WHERE > TransAlta Arts Barns (10330 84 Ave.)

HOW MUCH > $15 for Thurdsay and Friday day passes, $25 for Saturday and Sunday day passes, $70 for a full festival pass

Tom Blazejewicz
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

One of the benefits of live performance is its tangible presence: the artistic capabilities of the human body coming to life before your very eyes. And when the body moves and changes in front of an audience, it brings a new understanding of the full power and beauty of what the physical form can do. Onstage, the body becomes a work of energy and excitement, leaping, dancing and flowing from one form to another.

The possibilities that lie within the human body are the focus of the Expanse Movement Arts Festival: a gathering of dancers, circus acts and other "body-based performers" now celebrating its eighth year. As Amber Borotsik, the festival's outreach coordinator, notes, the festival has become an integral part of Edmonton's art scene.



"We were really interested in exploring this notion of body-based movement," she says. "There's pure theatre, and then there's pure dance, so we were interested in exploring the combination of the two. Over the years it's interesting to see how physical theatre — and how the genres and the borders between theatre and dance — have started dissolving. It's really exciting to be able to produce and present a festival like this."

The festival started in 2004 to encourage experimentation in physical theatre, something Borotsik says was lacking at the time — there being relatively limited opportunities to introduce new ideas. It was from this climate that the festival began to explore new directions, fostering a new kind of openness in the Edmonton arts community.

> **"Over the years, it's interesting to see how physical theatre — and how the genres and the borders between theatre and dance — have started dissolving. It's really exciting to be able to produce and present a festival like this.**
>
> AMBER BOROTSIK
> OUTREACH COORDINATOR, EXPANSE MOVEMENT ARTS FESTIVAL

Today, Expanse includes some of Canada's most exciting artists showing dance, aerial and circus arts, mime, slapstick comedy and various other physical forms of performance art. This year features artists including accomplished physical actor Dean Bareham of Calgary's Green Fools Theatre and Edmonton's own Mile Zero Dance, featuring the talents of local artists Gerry Morita and Lin Snelling.

But there are still many other talented performances to be found. Festival curator Amy Kubanek is especially excited about the Fresh Works Cabaret, who will perform in the lobby of the Westbury Theatre at the Arts Barns on the festival's opening night.

"I invited 10 different artists to be a part of it," says Kubanek. "They're all from varying backgrounds, so there are musicians, visual artists, actors and dancers, and everybody is making a physical interpretation of a classic. They can choose any genre: painting, theatre, poetry. I have one, maybe even two (performers) who are using the Bible, so it's going to be really fun."

Beyond that, festival co-ordinators are keeping the coming surprises hushed. And staying true to their commitment to exploring new possibilities in performance, site-specific shows by traveling artists will provide their own surprises, popping up throughout the city to bring the festival out of the theatre and people's daily lives.

"My great love," Borotsik says, "is if somebody is just walking to get a coffee, and all of a sudden they run into this performance — and it just happens."

What exactly we'll be seeing from the festival's bodies of energy won't be clear until they're right in front of us. But wherever the Expanse Movement Festival appears, the artistic experience it provides is sure to alter perspectives about the possibilities of storytelling through moving and manipulating the human body.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Julianna Damer**



Caylee Webber
ALES IV

GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

CAYLEE: I'm wearing leopard print skinny jeans from Forever XXI, a jacket, a fluffy scarf that I got in London and a Michael Kors watch. I'm also wearing boots from ASOS online and a belt from Mexico

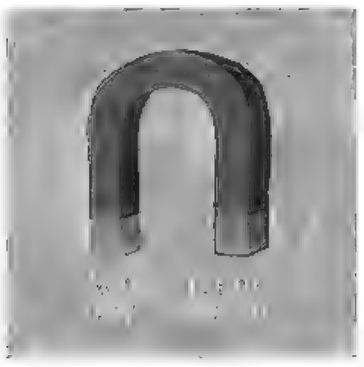
GATEWAY: What's your favourite thing you have on?

CAYLEE: My new pink leopard print pants. I like them because I feel like a member of LMFAO when I wear them, but in a sexy Rachel Bilson kind of way.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

ALBUM REVIEW



Woodpigeon
For Paolo

End of the Road
woodpigeon-songbook.com

Richard LaRose
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Mark Hamilton of Woodpigeon claims the group's latest album, *For Paolo*, is inspired by the music his parents used to play during road trips around Calgary. But the songs on it seem to work better as a cure for insomnia than road music.

For Paolo features sober, haunting melodies amongst an assortment of acoustic and electronic instruments including violin, piano and electric guitar. At times, Hamilton sings in a whisper that barely rises above the sounds of the instruments. It sounds like the kind of album you should play while you're trying to fall asleep, looking out the window at a rainstorm or writing gloomy break-up poetry.

"By Lamplight," the album's best song, stands out with incredible imagery that tells of a romantic journey through the dimly-lit streets of Paris. "Lines melt away / Right off your face. By lamplight / I'll love you forever." Like the lines in the lyrics, the four minutes of this song melt away as though they were two.

But if you'd rather use the album for its soothing, sleep-inducing properties, avoid "Are you there God, it's me, Mark." While it begins much like the rest with sombre strings and a deep, mellow drum beat, the background vocals seem designed to grate on the ears, just slightly off-key from the main vocals. At the climax of the song, the otherwise acoustic instruments are suddenly drowned out by a heavily distorted electric guitar, a great way to break up any introspective reverie.

Not road music by anybody's standards, *For Paolo* still provides an excellent backdrop for those more contemplative afternoons when you're lost in your own thoughts.

Questioning sustainability and stability with visual art

ART PREVIEW

Unstable Natures

WHEN > Runs Friday, March 2 – Saturday, March 31

WHERE > Latitude 53 (10248 106 St.)

CURATED BY > Alysha Creighton, Tessa Hawkins and Andrea Kastner

HOW MUCH > Free

Alana Willerton
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @ALANAWILLERTON

We have to face an all too unpleasant reality: our world is becoming increasingly unstable in the wake of natural disasters and our own impact on the planet. In Unstable Natures, the latest art exhibition at Latitude 53, artwork created by graduate students from across North America strives to interpret the different ways we experience this onslaught of instability.

An extension of the University of Alberta's Art and Design Graduate Student Association symposium, slated to take place later this month, Unstable Natures concentrates on the destruction that human and environmental volatility can create. While the symposium deals with the theme of instability in visual and material culture as a whole, Unstable Natures curators Alysha Creighton, Tessa Hawkins and Andrea Kastner made the decision to take the exhibition in a more specific direction.

Creighton believes that by focusing the exhibit on the unstable relationship between mankind and the environment, they've managed to not only create a more specific outlet for the symposium's overall theme, but also tap into a current artistic topic.

"I think that as an artist, instability is this very creative place, and a lot of the artists are using the material properties of objects that are degrading," Creighton says. "It's taking what's essentially unstable and taking advantage of its visual and conceptual potential.

"Instability creates potential for change and for new possibilities that haven't been considered before."

The curators received approximately 40 pieces following their open call to graduate students from across Canada and the United States for artwork, and together they whittled the submissions down to the 15 pieces. Some of the artists chose to focus on the degradation of the planet itself, while other pieces examine the relation between the human body and its surrounding landscape.

While some of the artwork reflects different and conflicting perspectives of unstable natures, Hawkins feels there's a definite connection between several specific works within the exhibition.

"There are some specific connections like man and animal in some works and degradation in other works," she explains. "But when you start looking beyond that, there are some hidden connections that you can find if you choose to look there. You could walk there and not find them just as easily — there are some very interesting connections that I think even we didn't see to begin with. I think the pieces that we chose actually spoke to us later on in the process more than we were expecting."

"I think that as an artist, instability is a very creative place ... It's taking what's essentially unstable and taking advantage of its visual and conceptual potential."

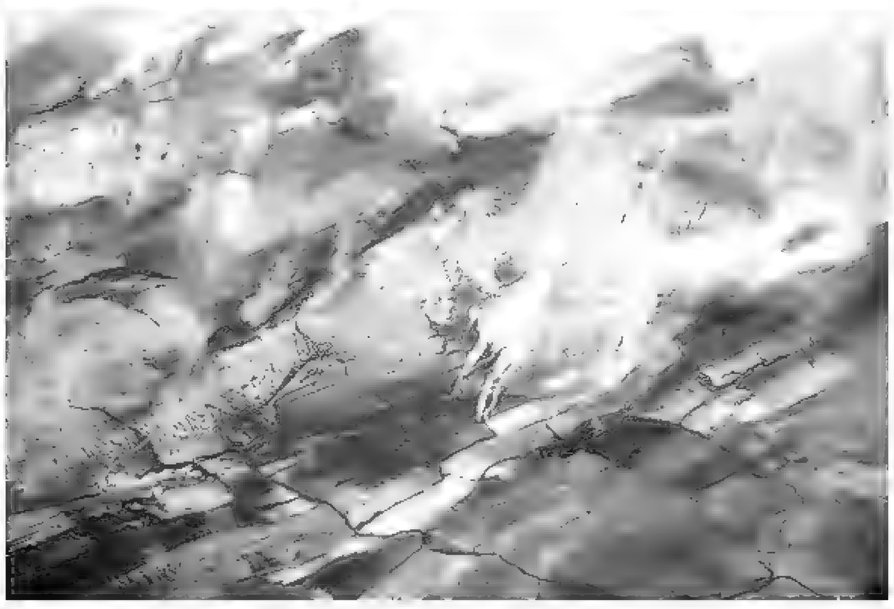
ALYSHA CREIGHTON
CURATOR, UNSTABLE NATURES

Unstable Natures meshes together different perspectives and opinions to examine the different forms instability takes and what it means for the future. Thanks to pieces in the exhibit that both complement and complicate each other, Hawkins believes the exhibition comes together to communicate a complex dialogue about mankind's relationship with the earth.

"I think it's amazing that we can find ties through all of these works," she says. "That something so broad as instability is seen in works ranging from Florida to New York to Alberta. There's obviously something inherently unstable in our culture right now — whether it's economic, political or material — that people are really relating to."



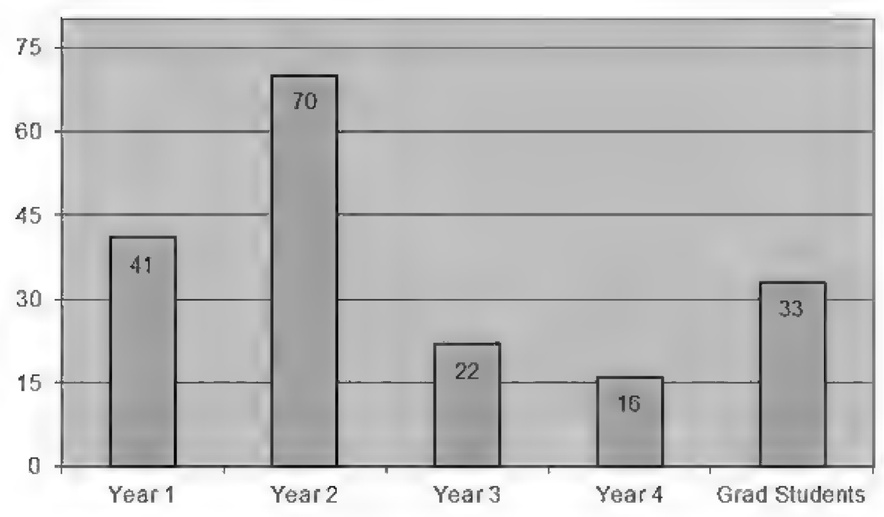




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Academic Integrity should be important to all members of the University community.

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Second year students and graduate students need to take extra care when writing papers. Don't jeopardize your academic career.

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Provided on behalf of the
GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC).

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Call for Consultation

By the Dean Review Committee
Faculty of Nursing

Dr. Molzahn's current term as Dean, Faculty of Nursing will end on June 30, 2013, and she has indicated she will seek a second term in office. In accordance with University regulations, a Review Committee has been established.

At this point, the Review Committee is calling for opinion on the state of the Faculty of Nursing under the leadership of the current Dean. All input must be in writing and signed, or sent by e-mail. Members of the community may ask the Provost to have their input circulated to the committee without attribution. Individuals are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to the Provost, as Chair, to express their views on priorities of the Faculty, current issues, and the future direction of the Faculty. All feedback may be shared with the Review Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, **please submit your comments by Wednesday, April 4, 2012.**

Specifically, the Committee is interested in the following:
1) **Leadership** – ability to provide a vision and direction for the Faculty and achieve its strategic goals;

2) **Management** – fairness, balance and effectiveness in decision-making affecting the direction of the Faculty and effectiveness in setting priorities and dealing with issues;

3) **Personnel Management** – issues dealing with the recruitment and retention of staff, as well as the administration of all personnel within the Faculty;

4) **Contributions** – the contributions of the Dean within the Faculty, the University, the Community (including alumni), and professional fields;

5) **Development** – the success of the Faculty in achieving its goals with resources available and the effectiveness of the Dean in seeking outside funding through fund development and advancement activities;

6) **Communications** – the effectiveness of both internal and external communications;

7) **Other matters.**

In addition, a 'Public Forum' will be held on **Wednesday, March 28, 2012, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in Room 1-190 Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA)** where Dean Molzahn will discuss her vision of the Faculty of Nursing for the next five years. Dean Molzahn's review is based on the position description in effect at the time of her appointment; that description may be accessed online at http://www.provost.ualberta.ca/Information.aspx.

Your views are important and the Review Committee is grateful for your assistance Please forward your comments to the Provost at the address or e- mail below or to any member of the Dean Review Committee (contact information below).

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Seuss' beloved *Lorax* still a success on the big screen

FILM REVIEW

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax

WHEN > Now playing
WRITTEN BY > Dr. Seuss
ADAPTED BY > Ken Daurio
DIRECTED BY > Chris Renaud and Kyle Balda
STARRING > Zac Efron, Taylor Swift and Danny DeVito

Peggy Jankovic
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ▪ @PEGGHETTI

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing's going to get better. It's not."

The Lorax famously warned against the dangers of environmental inaction in Dr. Seuss' 1971 children's book. The original plot consisted solely of a nameless young boy listening to old Once-ler's cautionary tale of when he had destroyed the forest of Truffula trees out of greed, despite warning from the Lorax, the guardian of the forest. The 1972 cartoon also stuck to this storyline. Now, an updated film version of Seuss' environmental call to arms beefs up the storyline by shifting its focus to the young boy.

Ted, voiced by Zac Efron, is a 12-year-old with a massive crush on Audrey (Taylor Swift), an artistic high school girl whose greatest wish is to have a Truffula tree of her own. On the advice of his eccentric grandmother (Betty White), Ted seeks out the mysterious Once-ler (Ed Helms) to find out why there are no trees left in his home of Thneed-Ville, and where he might possibly find one.

The bitter Once-ler then launches into a story of his youth and how his Truffula-based multipurpose invention, the "Thneed," was such a success that he ignored the Lorax's (Danny DeVito) efforts to prevent the eventual deforestation. The plot is injected with additional conflict in the form of the mayor Mr. O'Hare (Rob Riggle), the greedy owner of a company that sells bottled fresh air. Since O'Hare has his own stake in keeping Thneed-Ville treeless — as trees produce their own fresh air for free — he'll stop at nothing to put an end to Ted's quest of reviving the Truffula trees in Thneed-Ville to win Audrey over.

As soon as the movie begins, one of its most striking aspects are its visuals. The film preserves the spirit of Seuss' original illustrations, amplifying them to look much more real. It's hard not to notice the contrast between the colour palettes of Thneed-Ville, the wasteland and the vibrant forest it once was. The animation is also exquisitely detailed, from each hair of the Lorax's moustache to every silky Truffula tuft.

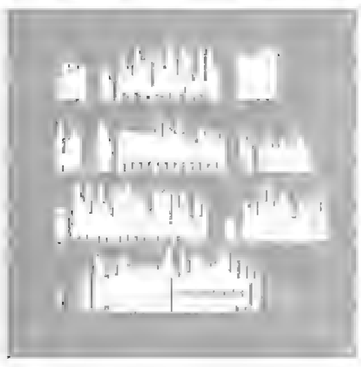
Though the use of 3D seems to be used mostly as a gimmick in most movies, the animators here have made the extra dollars and 3D glasses worth it. Where many 3D movies stick to the typical shots of things shooting towards the audience, *The Lorax* takes a more subtle approach. Depth is added to otherwise normal scenes and the regular shtick with objects flying out of the screen is made fresh with inventive points of view.

The movie's voice acting is also impressive, aside from a few unimpressive performances from the younger actors. DeVito is a perfect choice to voice the Lorax, and Ed Helms' goofiness shines through as the jaunty young Once-ler. Swift's lines, however, are mostly unconvincing; she isn't an actress, after all, and the casting choice seems like more of a desperate attempt to draw her vast fanbase to the theatre.

In its day, *The Lorax* was Dr. Seuss' most controversial work. Its clear environmental message actually lead to it being banned in schools in regions whose economy depended on forestry. True to the original children's book, sustainability remains the crux of this film. *The Lorax* focuses on the conflict between environmental stewardship and a competitive business model, drawing attention to the modern balance between the two with musical numbers, the Once-ler singing "How bad can I be? I'm just building the economy" as he removes the Truffula trees.

The Lorax is an entertaining, visually-stunning interpretation of the Seuss classic. And, most importantly, it continues to effectively pass on Seuss' strong — and forever necessary — environmental message.

ALBUM REVIEW



The Just Barelys
Mad Bits
Just Friends Records
thejustbarelys.ca

Cody Gretzinger
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

For the connoisseurs of truly awful music, *Mad Bits* will satisfy with some fabulously unfine music. The Just Barelys have managed to just barely get their act together enough to release a third album, and it's unfortunately nothing but an art-pop monstrosity.

Stephen Kelly and Elanor King, the masterminds behind The Just Barelys, have spent years producing *Mad Bits* through home recordings. Unsurprisingly, the end result comes off as a bunch of crap tracks recorded in a basement by some kids with a lot of time but no motivation to do much work. Take for example "Lions," their recommended track: Kelly manages to play a simple riff with such complete and utter dispassion that it seems like he should have just filled the song with prerecorded Garage Band guitar sounds instead of picking up an actual guitar himself.

Their self-proclaimed genre of art-pop shows the unfortunately pretentious side of the do-it-yourself music industry. All Kelly and King have done is regurgitate common melodies and rhythms and mixed in some homemade electronic noises, proclaiming themselves avant-garde.

Perhaps the music could be considered avant-garde if The Just Barelys were misunderstood, but not with lyrical gems that include, "It's hard when we work hard" and "I am not going to shut up just 'cause we've got nothing to say." While there seems to be effort behind the music, it's gone to waste on a disappointing and aggravating album.



Sports

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Rebecca Medel
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Email
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca
Volunteer
Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

Hoop Bears head to nationals as CanWest champs

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Bears @ Nationals

Friday to Sunday, March 9-11
Halifax, NS

Matt Hirji
SPORTS STAFF • @MATTHIRJI

A pair of three pointers drained by Daniel Ferguson in the waning seconds of the Canada West divisional championship game on Saturday has launched the Golden Bears to national prominence.

Ferguson's treys not only gave the Bears a 72–71 victory over the University of Fraser Valley Cascades, but it gave the Green and Gold their first CanWest championship in six years and their 11th divisional trophy in team history.

"Daniel (Ferguson) has ice in his veins. It was kind of surreal seeing that," Bears head coach Greg Francis said. "We were down with a minute to play and Daniel just seemed so confident. He just made shots. He owned the end of that game and got us a championship."

Ferguson's heroics on Saturday increased the Bears' stock moving into the final weekend of the year. After claiming the CanWest divisional championship, the Bears were announced as the second seed in the national championship tournament. And while the Bears narrowly scraped their way into the playoffs last year, things feel different this time around for the team.

"We are a different team," Francis said. "When we got to the (playoffs) last year, everything was new. Qualifying for the national championship this year is just a logical progression. This year our whole outfit was so much more experienced going into the playoffs. We were very comfortable this year. We looked very confident, and we didn't have that last year."

The stakes are also higher this year. This weekend will mark the end of Daniel Ferguson's career wearing the Green and Gold silks. Also playing in their last CIS games are Jason Baillie, Andrew Bates and Matthew Cardoza.

Ferguson is not only one of the captains of the team — he's also the athlete that the entire team looks to as the workhorse. He leads the team in scoring and minutes played, and as Francis admits, without Ferguson in the lineup next year, it will be that much harder to get back to the national championship tournament next year.

"It's the funny thing about coaching and getting involved in university sport. You get involved with people like Daniel Ferguson and they make their program solid. He's just too much of a personality and too big a talent to not miss him next year. There is just no way for a program to not feel the loss. For us, we want to get it done now because we are going to lose a lot of talent after this year," Francis said.

But it won't be easy to claim a championship this weekend, even with Ferguson leading the charge. Standing in the Bears' way will be seven other nationally-ranked teams all vying for the chance to claim hard court national glory, not the least of which is the perennial powerhouse Carleton Ravens. The Ravens are not only the top-ranked team in the tournament, but they've also won seven of the last nine national titles.

"They are a tough team, no doubt about it," Francis said. "I think we approach that game like the pressure is all on them. We know that we are a good team, but we have nothing to lose. They are the number one seed and we are going to come in there with a lot of energy and youth and use that to our advantage. We'll be ready for them, but the pressure is on them, because they will be expected to win."

The Green and Gold's first game of the national championship tournament will be against the Ryerson Rams on Friday evening. The tip-off for the championship final is slated for Sunday afternoon and can be viewed on ssncanada.ca.



FILE PHOTO DAN MCKECHNIE

Athletics cuts field hockey team, withdraws from CanWest

Rationale behind the cut still unclear to the team, while Athletics Director Ian Reade cites budget cuts and lack of interest as reasons

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

HOCKEY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In an article on the U of A athletics website posted Thursday night, the reason given for the cut was budget-related, but the players said Reade made no mention of funding when he delivered the news to them.

"The reason we were given was that Reade is not satisfied with the success of field hockey in Canada as a country. Last weekend the women didn't qualify for the Olympics and that was one of the reasons that he gave," said fifth-year forward Toni Almhjell.

Reade stated that although budget was part of it — Athletics will be saving $120,000 by cutting the team — the decision also had to do with the model for field hockey development in Canada, as there are no local high school teams to feed players into the U of A's program. He also said there was also a general lack of interest in the sport in Edmonton.

"It was budget-related for sure. Budget savings are necessary. But I would also say it had a lot more to do than just budget. It has to do with our philosophy around sports — sport development, high performance sport.

"We could have handled the budget cut in 20 different ways. We decided to choose this way because we believe that field hockey has basically no future in this city. There's no interest in it in this city."

The U of A's team is now withdrawing from the Canada West conference and from CIS. As one of four field hockey teams in the CanWest conference, the implications of this decision may impact the entire conference and even all of CIS.

Canadian Interuniversity Sport CEO, Marg MacGregor said that each school has the autonomy to cut or add teams even if that decision will negatively affect their conference and all of CIS. She said that over the next few weeks CIS will talk to the other universities with field hockey programs, Field Hockey Canada, the CIS Coaches Association and the National Sport Organization to decide how to respond for next year's season.

"What we need to weigh carefully is will there continue to be enough teams across the country fielding field hockey teams to continue to make it a successful sport. That's obviously the issue of concern and (whether) the numbers shrink to a level that is no longer sustainable," MacGregor said.

Lynne Beecroft is the head coach of the University of Victoria Vikes field hockey team, and said she was extremely disappointed to hear about the U of A team being cut and hopes that Reade will reinstate the team. Beecroft would prefer a four-team conference over the possibility of playing against only Calgary and UBC. She added that this could also negatively impact the Canadian national team.

"CIS schools have been the primary feeder system for the women's national team for the past 36 years. So if this decision by Ian Reade causes the demise of CIS field hockey, I wonder what kind of trickle-down effect this will have on the sport in Canada," Beecroft said.

The news came just days after head coach Stefanie Sloboda — named Canada West co-Coach of the Year in October along with UBC's Hash Kanjee — returned from Olympic qualifiers in India as a team manager with the national team.

"I feel disrespected. I think my athletes have been disrespected. It's hard to explain the feeling of coming home from an Olympic qualifier when you've been representing your country … to hear, 'We're cutting the program,'" Sloboda said.

She added that her players chose the U of A over any other school in the country or the NCAA because it is known to be a program of excellence. The Pandas have made it to nationals 14 times in the past 22 years and have brought home eight medals, while the program itself has been around since 1970.

"That's why it's so disappointing to be standing here in this facility going, 'This isn't how U of A does things. This is not how they do things.'"

Reade said he hinted to Sloboda a few months ago that he wasn't happy with field hockey in Edmonton.

"I told her there's no future for field hockey in Edmonton. There's no kids coming up. There's no facilities here. You can't grow the sport here.

"I met with her in November and I met with her again in December and both times I explained to her that I felt it was time for her to apply for jobs other places."

Reade did tell the team that if they could come up with a new model for women's field hockey by June that he approves of, he would consider letting the them stay.

> **"I feel disprespected. I think my athletes have been disrespected. It's hard to explain the feeling of coming home from an Olympic qualifier … to hear, 'We're cutting the program."**
>
> STEFANIE SLOBODA
> PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY HEAD COACH

"I'm the only person from Edmonton on the team. However, I feel like this shouldn't discourage anything … there's lots of Alberta girls still playing. And by getting rid of this team — the rest of the Alberta girls at the junior level — they are not going to want to stay in the sport if they don't see a future in it," Santha said.

Incidentally, Slobodasaidthatfield hockey has just been recognized by the Canadian government as a sport that is going to have more funding allotted to it through the Own the Podium program.

Sloboda had high hopes for her team and for women's field hockey all across Canada. She said she recognizes that there will probably be changes to many sports and that the team is not trying to be negative, but that this decision encompasses a lot of issues.

"I've got a lot of things that I want to look at, especially gender equity. They cut a female sport. We both know that it's a 60/40 split with 60 (per cent) females on this campus. Now we've got 12 men's teams and 12 women's teams. There now is one less opportunity for females. And out of 24 teams on this campus there's now only three female coaches."

Reade said the decision had nothing to do with gender and he would actually invest more funding in women's teams if he could.

"It's field hockey. If there was a men's team we'd cut it.

"They can play field hockey every day from now until the day they die and we can't stop them from doing that. We never said they have to stop playing field hockey. We never said they had to stop using the Pandas name. We never said they had to get out of their dressing room at this point. We never said any of that. All we said is you're not playing in Canada West."

Visit thegatewayonline.ca for a full interview with Reade.

Decision to cut field hockey team poorly carried out



Alexandria Eldridge
SPORTS COMMENTARY



FILE PHOTO MOSTAFA VAFADOOST



MATT HIRJI

University of Alberta Athletics has decided to drop the Pandas field hockey team. The main problem is not that they've cut the team — it's the way it happened.

Athletics Director Ian Reade gave coach Stefanie Sloboda only 24 hours notice and the players only hours notice for calling the meetings in which the people most invested in the team found out about the change. They were completely blindsided — Sloboda had actually just gotten back from Olympic qualifiers in India with the national team.

Reade did give the team a glimmer of hope — if they could revamp the model for field hockey and find funding by June, they could keep the team. But this would've been a difficult endeavour even if they had started right after the season ended in November. But by now, Reade and the team know that there's not enough time to accomplish this, making the timing of this announcement even more unfair.

What's more, Reade's rationale for cutting the team doesn't hold water. First, the Athletics press release stated is was a "budget-related" decision, but the amount of money Athletics is saving from cutting this team is only $120,000 from the annual budet.

The other reason Reade gave was that the "Alberta model" for field hockey doesn't work, in that there are no youth or high school teams in Edmonton to feed players into the U of A's team. While this is true, it's not clear why this is a problem. I consider it a good thing that we're attracting top-quality athletes from across the country. What's more, the Edmonton Field Hockey Association is a vibrant community of people who love and play the sport.

Coincidentally, this announcement comes on the heels of a decision from Sport Canada, working with Own The Podium, to further fund field hockey at the youth and high school levels across the country. If Reade really wants the Alberta model to work, it would make sense to keep the field hockey program so that the high school and youth teams Sport Canada is going to be funding will have a team to work towards. In turn, CIS teams often feed players into Canada's national team, so having that missing link in Alberta between youth and the national team will substantially harm field hockey development in this province.

The harm the U of A is doing by cutting this program could be even more substantial. The Canada West conference had only four teams with U of A, but with their withdrawal, the conference will have only three teams, meaning it might be forced to fold. This could have an impact on CIS as a whole, although CIS hasn't yet commented yet on exactly what the impacts of the U of A's decision will be.

Admittedly, the field hockey team did not have a large following in Edmonton, but that's no excuse for the treatment of those that were invested in field hockey. Many athletes came here on scholarship with the understanding that they would be able to play here for the entirety of their degree. Now, these players are going to have to choose whether or not to pay to stay at the U of A without continuing their field hockey careers or try to relocate somewhere else. If Athletics makes a commitment to an athlete, that should be honoured. The least they could've done was given them more than a few months notice on something that will substantially impact their lives.

What's worse than all this, though, is the way Athletics made a decision like this without consulting the field hockey team itself or the coach. It lacked transparency and the hasty delivery of the decision make it seem that it also lacked careful consideration. The way to make a decision like this would be to consult those involved in field hockey and discuss the issues with the sport in Edmonton — and this should be weighed over the course of months, not hours.

But instead, Athletics made the decision without proper consultation and now they're trying to brush it under the rug with reasoning that doesn't make sense. It makes the entire university look amateur and disrespects the student-athletes that have represented our school.

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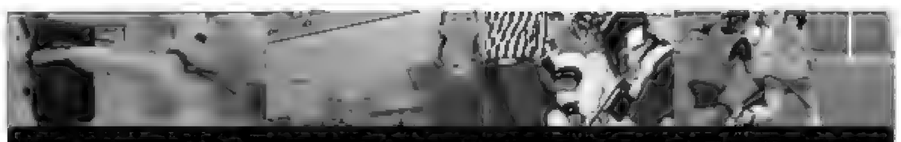
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2012-2013 Applications

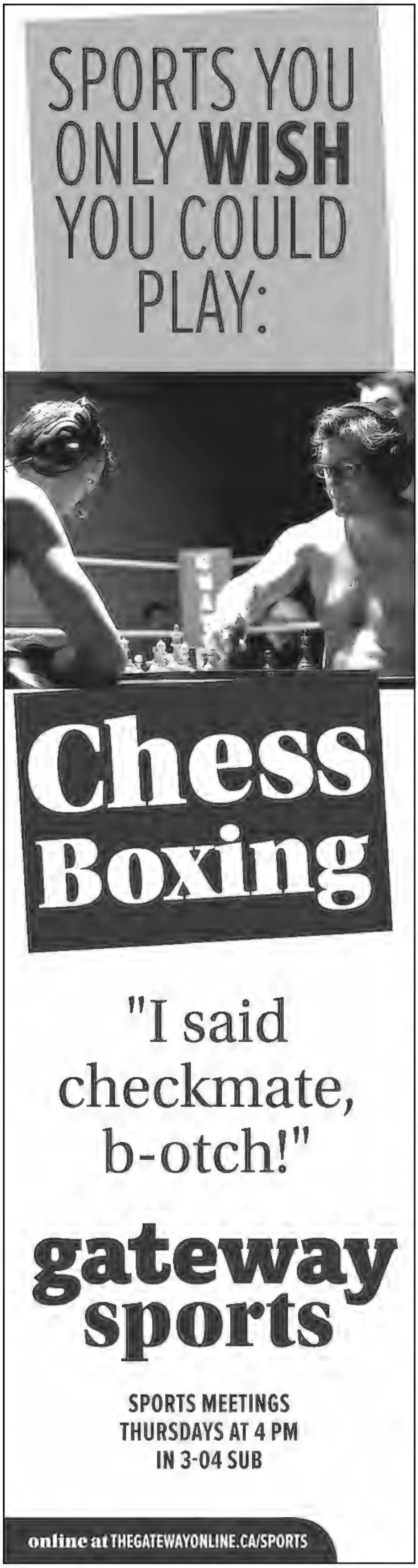
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Volley Bears finish sixth in CIS

VOLLEYBALL REVIEW

Bears @ Nationals

Friday to Sunday, March 2-4
Queen's University

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS STAFF ▪ @ANDREW_JEFREY

The men's volleyball CIS championships continued to be dominated by Canada West teams last weekend in Kingston, Ont., but it wasn't due to any help from the University of Alberta, who finished nationals in sixth place.

The Golden Bears entered nationals ranked fourth in CIS and came up on the losing side of the fifth-place consolation final on Sunday, against their rivals from the University of Calgary. The U of A started off strong with a close win in the first set but the Dinos' went on high-scoring runs in the second and third sets to pull ahead, and never looked back, winning three sets to one.

"I think the game yesterday was a character game," Bears left-side hitter Jay Olmstead said about the matchup against Calgary. "Both teams wanted it and they came out on top."

The U of A entered the CIS championships with momentum, coming off of a win against Calgary the week before in the CanWest bronze medal game. But they were upset in a very close quarter-final loss against the host team, Queen's University. They followed up with a dominating 3-0 win over Dalhousie to get into the consolation game, but U of C was ultimately able to take their revenge.

The Golden Bears' player of the match against the Dinos was Olmstead who led the game with 15 kills, which marked the second game of the weekend that he was at least tied for the team lead in kills. However, he said he didn't feel he played up to his game.

"Everyone individually could have played better. I think the whole weekend I was a little inconsistent. We're just looking forward to next year. We learned a lot this year, both as a team and individually. I think everyone can improve in a lot of areas."

The gold medal was won by the top-seeded, defending champions from Trinity Western University who defeated Laval 3-1. It was just the second time in 10 years that a men's volleyball team from outside the CanWest conference made it all the way to the CIS championship game, but a team from outside CanWest hasn't actually won the gold medal since Laval did it almost 20 years ago in 1994. Olmstead said that in the past the conferences across the country might not have been quite as strong as CanWest, but that in the past few years the OUA's gotten a lot stronger.

"(CIS) does have strong teams but not all of them are as strong as in Canada West and I think the rest of the country knows that. There's still good teams in each conference, though."

The U of A used to be a major part of CanWest's success with nine straight semifinal finishes at the CIS championships with their last nationals wins in both 2008 and 2009. But this was the second year in a row that they ended up playing in the consolation game instead.

Head coach Terry Danyluk is proud of his team for sticking it out despite injuries and is now prepping for a strong next season.

"It was a tough end to a good year considering all the issues we dealt with our last few weeks. The guys did a good job of playing through some adversity but we didn't have enough to finish our quarter-final match with Queens. With no graduating players and a good recruiting class ,next year's season and the team's future looks bright."

2012 CIS Women's Hockey Championship Preview

March 8-11, Clare Drake Arena. Visit thegatewayonline.ca for schedule and game recaps.

Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks

Kevin Campbell - The Cord
The No. 1 Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks enter the CIS national championships as favourites to reach the gold medal final. After an otherworldly 25-0-1 regular season, the Hawks compiled a 6-1 playoff record in the OUA final. Sophomore sensation Laura Brooker is a constant threat, as the sniper never has trouble finding the back of the net on the Hawks' top offensive unit with captain Abby Rainsberry and Devon Skeats. Skeats has upped her game when it matters most. With 12 goals in 18 playoff games in her career, the third-year looks to bring her energy and offensive spark to the tournament.The one wild card is in goal, where starting netminder Erika Thunder was forced out of game one of the OUA finals with a lower body injury after making a save.

McGill Martlets

Rebecca Medel - The Gateway
The Martlets are last year's CIS champs and in the last 12 years have brought home three golds, three silvers and four bronze medals from the national championship. They've played in the gold medal game the past five consecutive years. In RSEQ playoffs they beat the Montreal Carabins 4-0 in the gold medal match. With an overall season of 26-2-1, the Martlets will keep the other teams on their toes. Melodie Daoust is the team leader with 18 goals and 25 assists and Katia Clement-Heydra matches Daoust in goals. Goaltender Charline Labonte leads all of Canada with eight shutouts in 18 games this year and a .944 save percentage.

Calgary Dinos

Erin Shumlich - The Gauntlet
The University of Calgary women's hockey team has had a strong season. On Feb. 25, the Dinos hoisted the Canada West trophy for the first time in the school's history. The Dinos ousted the U of A in a best-of-three Canada West finals with two consecutive wins at home and are top contenders for the CIS champisonship.The Dinos entered the Canada West championship as the No. 3-ranked team in the nation and the favourites to win the conference. With a 20–4–0 regular season record, the team won their last 11 games, outscoring their opponents 51–18, to secure first place in the conference and gain home-ice advantage for the conference games. Hayley Wickenheiser was the Dinos's leading scorer of the season with 32 points. Entering the post-season, the Dinos shined on offence, hosting seven of the top 18 scorers in the conference and was the highest-scoring team in the conference this year, averaging four goals per game.

UPEI Panthers

Rebecca Medel - The Gateway
After finishing fourth in their conference, the Panthers left the rest of AUS shocked when they pulled off a gold-medal win last weekend beating Mt. Alison 3-0. This will be the first Panthers' appearance at CIS nationals and it was their first AUS title. Netminder Kristy Dobson stopped 55 of 56 shots on net in the two final games. Dobson is ranked second in the AUS for goals against average, with a 1.74 avg in 15 games, and she's tied for third in shutout records with two. Other strong players that will be on Edmonton ice this week include Kelsey O'Donnell with eight goals and 12 assists, Ferran Brown with nine goals and nine assists and Janelle MacKenzie with six goals and 12 assists. MacKenzie's .231 shot percentage puts her in third spot in AUS.

Alberta Pandas

Matt Hirji - The Gateway
The Pandas hockey team has won seven national championships since their inauguration as a varsity team 15 years ago. But this will be the team's first opportunity ever to attempt to claim national gold on home ice. The Pandas finished second in Canada West at the conclusion of the regular season. Seven overtime losses throughout the year left the Green and Gold staggering behind the dominant Calgary Dinos in the divisional rankings with 14-3-7 regular season and 2-2 in playoffs. Led by co-captain's Andrea Boras and Sarah Hillworth, who have combined to claim 14 goals and 23 assists so far this season, the Pandas efforts will be stoked by the cheers of the hometown crowd when they step on the ice at Clare Drake Arena.

Montreal Carabins

Rebecca Medel - The Gateway
This will be the second time the Carabins play in the national championship, taking fifth in 2010. The Carabins ended the season second in the RESQ with a 17-7-2 overall season losing the gold medal match to the McGill Martlets 4-0. Goaltender Rachel Ouellette had a 9-6 season including one shutout. Ariane Barker led her team in goals with 13, Josianne Legault had 16 assists and Kim Deschenes was the points leader with 9-11-20. This is only the third year of play for the Carabins and already their second trip to nationals.

Huskies oust ice Bears to play in CanWest final

HOCKEY REVIEW

Bears vs. Huskies

Friday to Sunday, March 2-4
Clare Drake Arena

Remi LeBlanc
SPORTS WRITER



JILLIANNA DAMER

The University of Saskatchewan Huskies ended the puck Bears' hopes for their 16th consecutive CanWest final appearance with a 4-3 overtime win on Sunday night.

Ranked only one point behind the Bears, the matchup proved to be a clash worthy of semifinal action, as both Saturday and Sunday's games ended in overtime wins for Saskatchewan.

"The series was very tight — even the game we won 7-3 (on Friday). (There) wasn't a lot of space out there; it was a tight checking game. (The Huskies are) a tenacious team, they're a skilled team, and they're fast," said Bears forward Johnny Lazo following their defeat Sunday night.

Scoring three goals in the first half of the period, and one shortly after, the Bears came out of the locker room on Friday like a well-tuned machine.

"We were well prepared, we were playing at home and the goalies were very focused and they wanted this," said Bears head coach Stan Marple after Friday's win.

"The Huskies played hard tonight. I thought Greg Gardner's line with Kruise Reddick and Johnny Lazo did a great job against their top line and it really made the difference for us."

Lazo, a right winger hailing from Winnipeg, proved on Friday night that everything he touched turned to goal. Scoring three goals and assisting another, Lazo was an invaluable part of the Huskies' Friday defeat.

"Lazo came out with great bursts of speed and started scoring for us and that was huge. It really got a nice tilt for us. He got everybody going, and it was kind of a domino effect after that," said Bears defenceman Ian Barteaux. Despite a mouth injury, Barteaux managed to score two goals on Friday — his first of the season. Bears rookie centre Reddick also picked up a pair of goals, scoring the Bears' second and sixth goals.

But Saturday's game didn't see the Bears dominate as they had the previous night and was a closer battle between the two teams. With no score in the first period, both teams were on point to win. But going one for eight on powerplays, the Bears special teams were far from ideal, while the Huskies were two for five on powerplays, beating Real Cyr twice over his glove side.

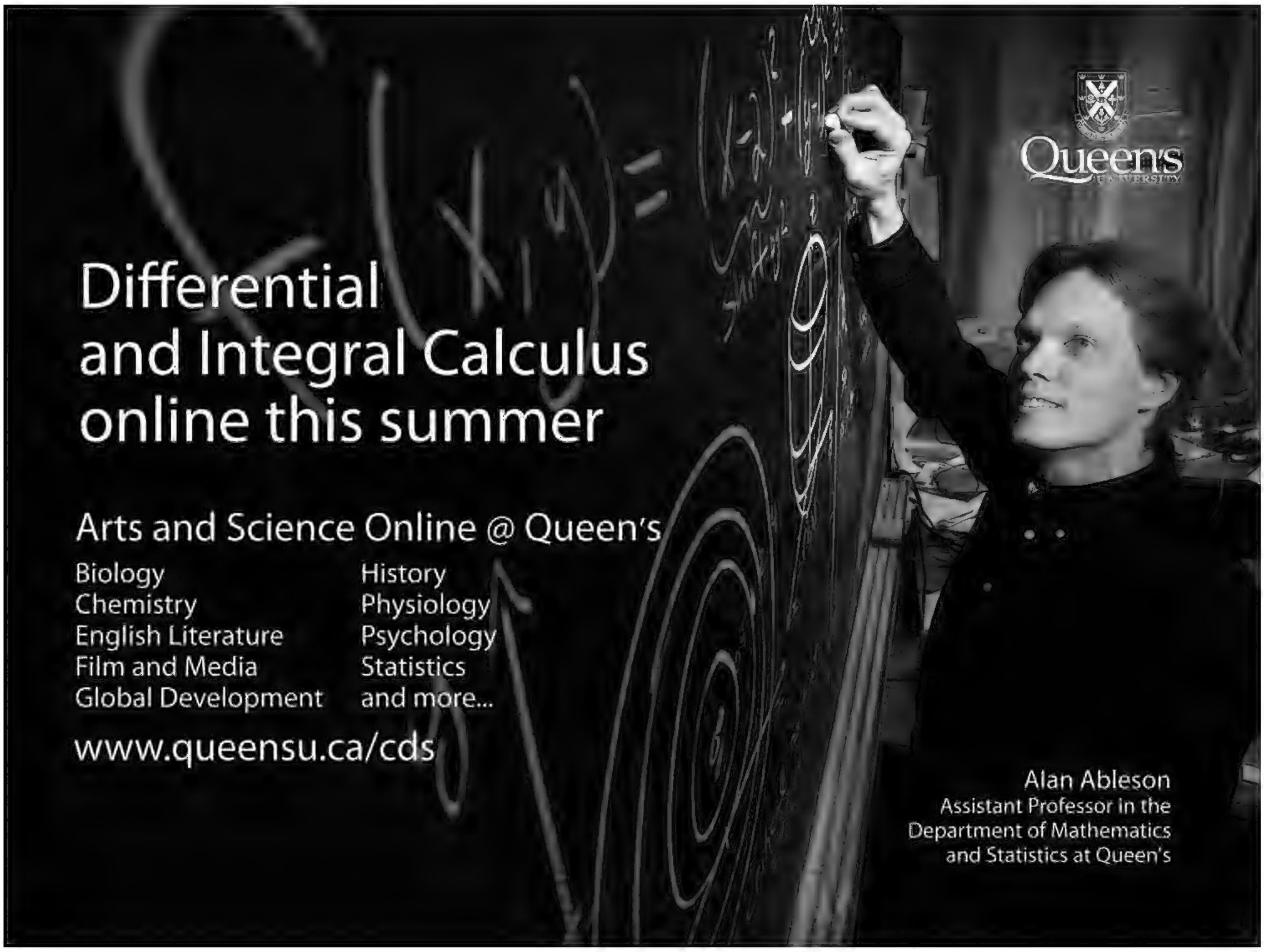
After three periods, the game was tied 2-2, and came to an end halfway through the overtime period when a misguided pass by Cyr ultimately gave Huskies' forward Kyle Bortis the game-winning goal. The final score was 3-2 in favour of the Huskies.

This meant Sunday's game was make it or break it for the Bears, who started off well with two powerplay goals in the first period, both by defenceman Jesse Craige. But the Huskies dominated the second period, scoring three goals and outshooting the Bears 23-12. Just four minutes into the third period, Reddick stuffed the puck in to tie the game at three and score his fourth goal of the series.

Once again the game was a gritty battle that could only be settled in overtime. A tripping call on Reddick gave the Huskies a monumental advantage, just 30 seconds into the overtime period.

Although it was deflected off of a Bears' stick, the Huskies' game winning goal went to forward Brennan Bosch.

"A lucky deflection off of our stick and that's our season," Marple said. "We had a good season with a young team and they're definitely not happy about losing out and not advancing to the next round, but we've got a lot of upsides to this team too. We'll be better next year and a lot stronger."



Silver finish for volley Pandas after tough rematch with T-Birds

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Pandas @ Nationals

Friday to Sunday, March 2-4
McMaster University

Atta Almasi
SPORTS STAFF



FILE PHOTO YIFENG LIU

In the end, a long effort on the part of the Pandas was not enough to derail the defending CIS women's volleyball champions, as the UBC Thunderbirds bested the U of A squad in five thrilling sets to clinch their fifth national title in a row.

The Pandas came home from the national championships with a silver after losing in five sets (25-21, 15-25, 19-25, 25-20, 15-12). The Green and Gold, who had beat UBC in five sets at the Canada West conference title game in Vancouver just a week earlier, rolled past the CIS host McMaster Marauders on Friday and the McGill Redmen on Sunday, in four and three sets respectively, to set up a CanWest final re-match on Sunday versus their conference rival.

Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler said it was the little things that allowed the T-Birds to walk away with gold.

"I think it came down to serve and receive and just a little too many mistakes on our side in the fifth set and they got a little gap and we couldn't come back from it," Eisler said after the game.

After falling behind early in the first set, the Pandas rallied to take the second and third sets in somewhat commanding fashion, winning 25-15 and 25-19, respectively, just as they had done against UBC in the CanWest championships when, after falling behind in the first set, the Pandas were able to regroup and grab the momentum by taking the next two sets and putting the T-Birds in a must-win situation in set four.

Eisler credits her team's resilience as the reason why they were able to put the first set loss behind them and take the next two.

"You've just got to stick with it," she said about coming back after dropping the first set. "We knew that if we played aggressively, we could get them, kind of, out of sync and I think that happened a bit and credit how they re-set it and did a nice job in the fourth and fifth sets."

One player who proved to be a challenge for other teams and an unstoppable force for the Pandas all tournament was rookie international sensation Alena Olmechenko, who, prior to the tournament was named an All-Star to the CIS Second Team. Fourth-year setter Ja ki Ellis — who herself had a sizable contingent of fan support from her nearby hometown of Mississauga — was also named to the CIS Second Team and had the honour of being named a Tournament All-Star after the match.

"She's a great player, she just keeps doing more and more," Eisler said on her 6'4 outside hitter, Omelchenko, who's still only in her first year of CIS eligibility. "She hits a ball (in the gold medal match) I've never seen her hit before, she rises to the occasion, and we're thrilled to have her with us."

After winning back-to-back sets in the second and third, UBC came back to even the match by taking the fourth set, despite a controversial call, forcing the match to a fifth and deciding set just as they had done a week earlier in the CanWest championship.

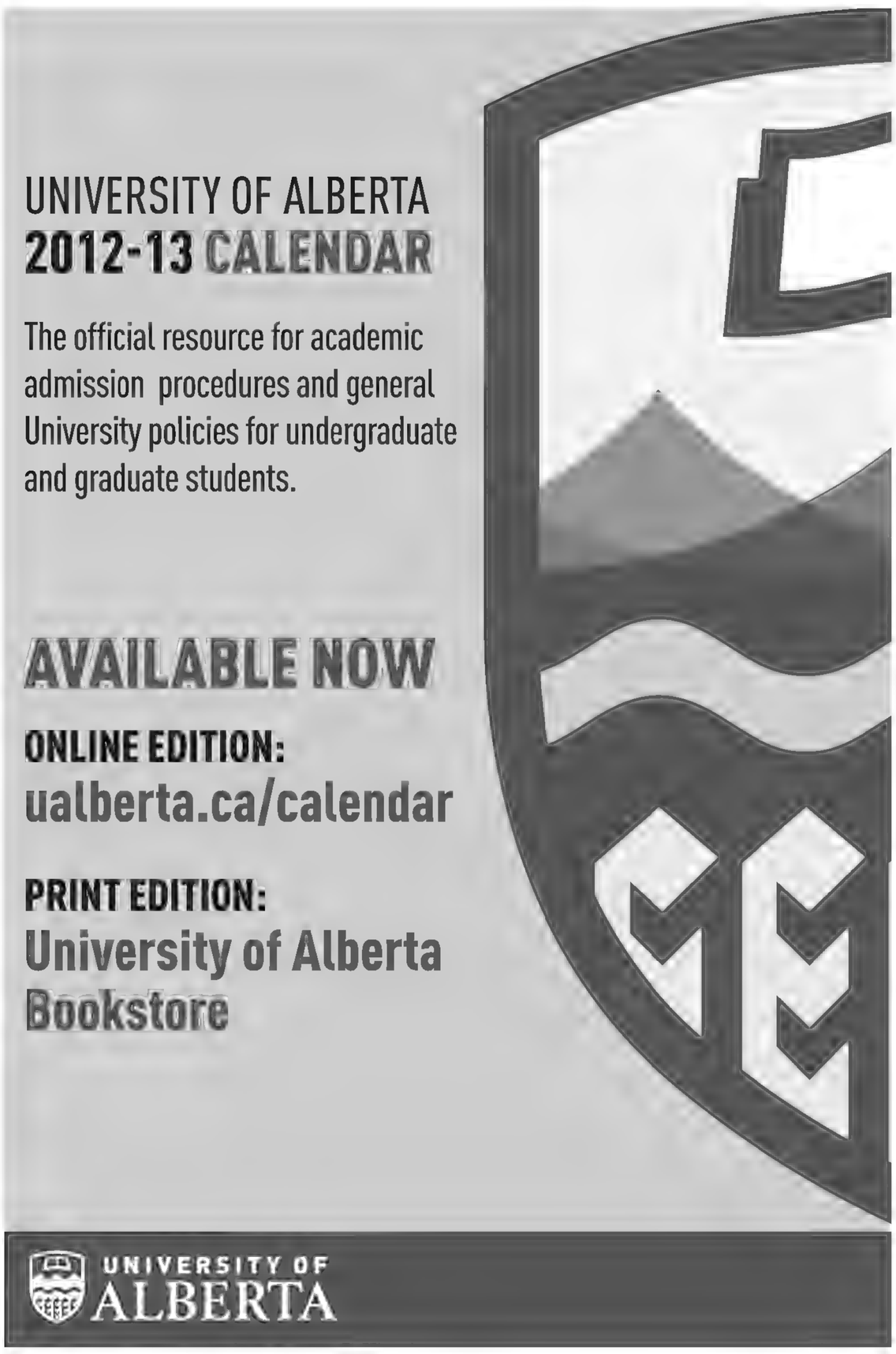
But unlike the CanWest final, the T-Birds were able to get in front early and, despite the Pandas making a set of it by drawing to within two, UBC was able to carry the momentum they had picked up midway through the fourth set and hang on and realize their drive for five.

And while the girls in blue were enthusiastically celebrating their school's fifth title in as many years, the Alberta side was more sombre, many of the players in tears. Some of them, the team's five fifth year players, realizing that their dream of bringing home a championship banner to Edmonton would not be a highlight of their post-secondary volleyball careers.

After the match and before the Pandas went to receive their silver medals, Eisler said she told the team that the loss was going to hurt.

"They don't have to look happy but they have to have class. And it's going to hurt — it's going to hurt a lot for a long time. It's all a process of learning how to win."





Track and field team hoping for big wins at nationals

TRACK AND FIELD **PREVIEW**

Bears/Pandas @ Nationals

Thursday to Saturday, March 8-10
University of Winnipeg

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR





MATT HIRJI

The U of A's track and field team is heading to nationals this weekend, hoping to bring back their first national win since 2001.

"We keep knocking at the door but we haven't been able to open it yet," said Bears and Pandas track and field head coach Georgette Reed.

This weekend, 17 members of the Green and Gold head to Winnipeg for a national championship and Reed hopes at least one gold medal will be in the mix if everyone stays healthy.

"We'll probably come home with about three medals. If we're fortunate and everybody's ready on the day, we'll have a gold in one of those," Reed said, adding that despite having strong athletes on her team, it's the specific dynamic of each team that leads to an overall win.

"The hardest thing for us is depth. We have people that are number one in Canada West but then we don't have those (third, fourth, fifth), sixth places like Calgary and some of the other teams do where they may not have the number one person, but they've got lots of people in the middle. So that makes up for more points than what we have. If you went on just medals won, we probably would have been the overall leader (at past national championships)."

Those top athletes include Stephen McPhee, who took home the gold in long jump at the CanWest meet on Feb. 24-25 and is ranked as the best varsity long jumper in the country.

"He's still got a lot more in him, so I'm hoping that he'll pop off a big jump right at the beginning," Reed said.

For the throws, Smith Wright and Ciera Heshka-Wolf pulled off personal bests at CanWest with Wright hitting 14.98 metres in shot put and Heshka-Wolf hitting 16.32 metres in the weight throw. She is ranked eighth in CIS and third in CanWest. Wright is ranked 13th in CIS and second in CanWest and Reed said she knows he'll move into top-five after this meet.

"He's got another big personal best coming in the weight throw. I can feel it. So he'll surprise some of those guys at nationals for sure."

Many of the team's athletes come from another sport background. Adam Baptie played football for the Bears before switching to track. Baptie placed seventh in the pentathlon at CanWest and qualified for nationals. Pole vaulter and high jumper Lindsey Bergevin was a gymnast who is now the number-two ranked pole vaulter in the country. According to Reed, the list of track athletes from another discipline could go on.

"It's not one of those sports where you develop at 15 or 16 years of age. Usually the people that develop really quickly burn out really fast. You'll find that it's the athletes that come from different sports — gymnastics backgrounds, figure skating backgrounds, football backgrounds —they come and they start doing track and all of a sudden they realize they have other talents."

The combined athletic ability of the team makes the Green and Gold a strong competitor against other universities attending the nationals championship. The Bears last won in 2001 and the Pandas in 1985. The team has come close many times in the past few years, though, with the men coming out tops in CanWest in 2006 and bringing home the bronze from nationals. The women took second at CanWest the past two years and had a fourth-place finish at nationals last year.



Diversions

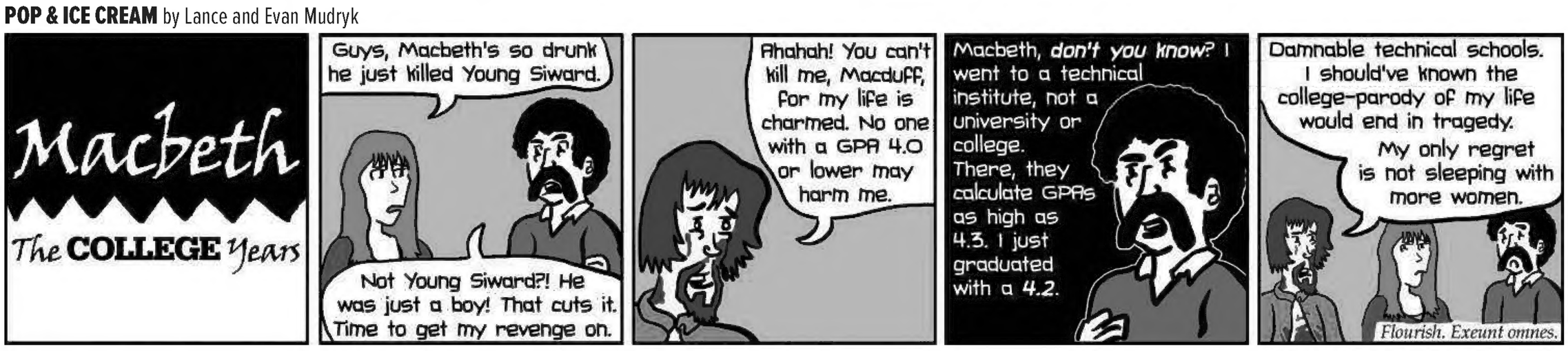
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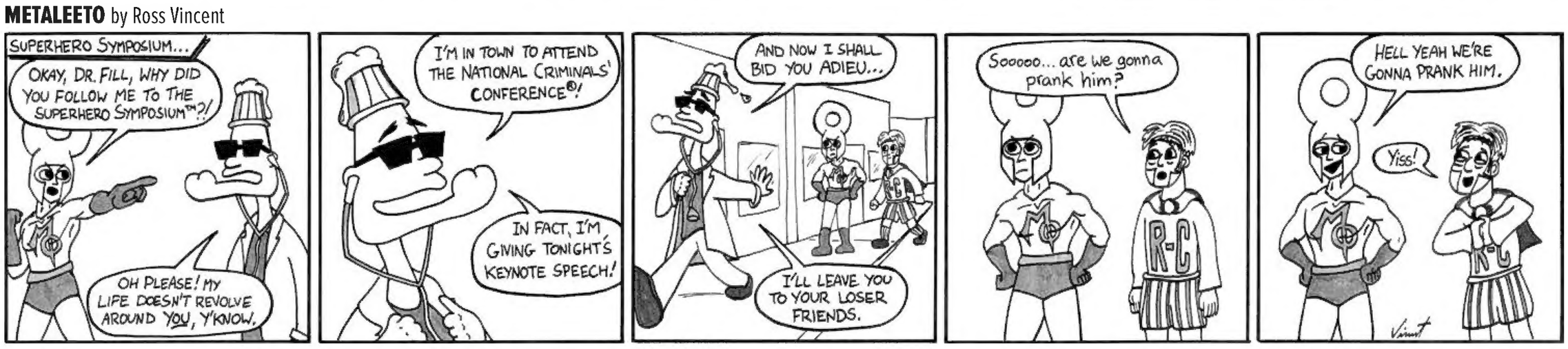
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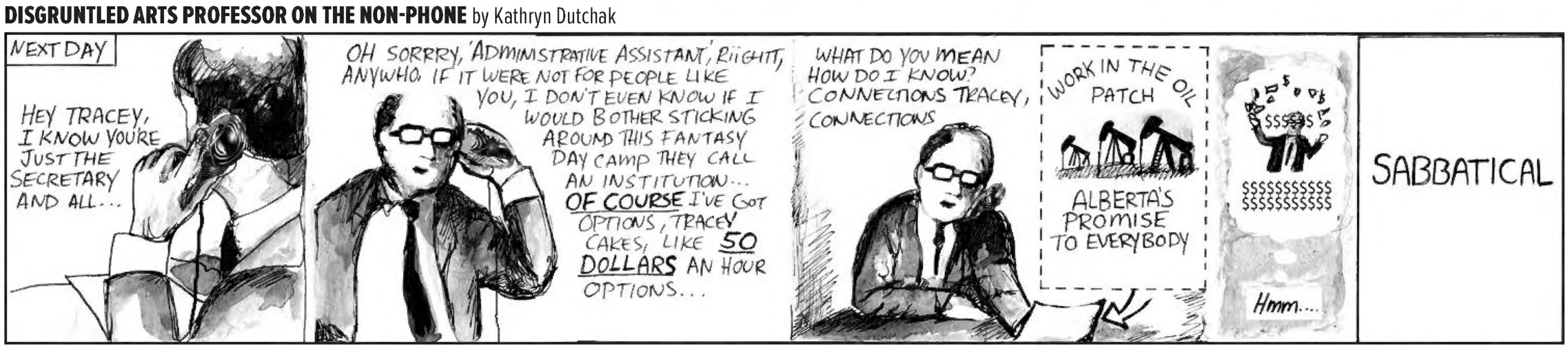
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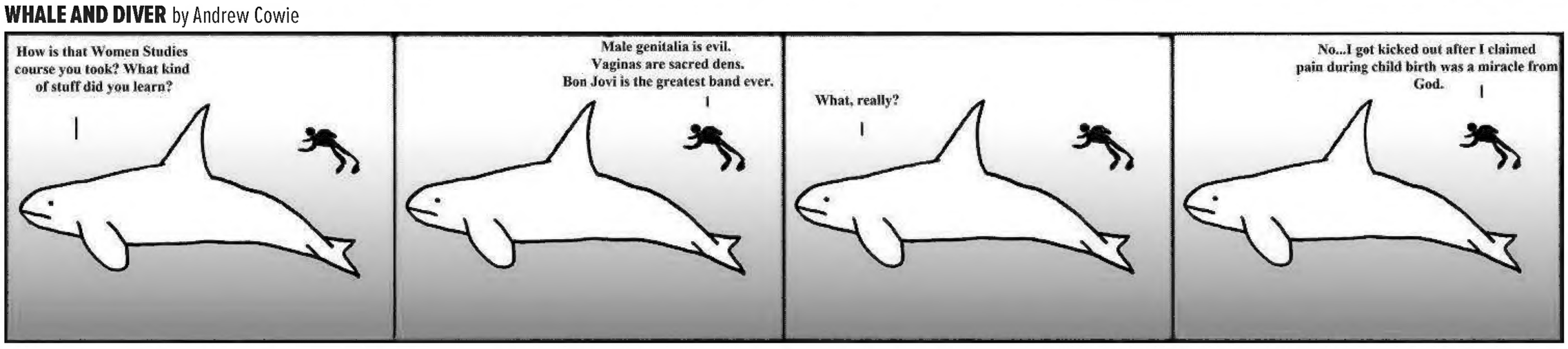
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THE ADVENTURES OF RORY TIGHE by Gateway Staff

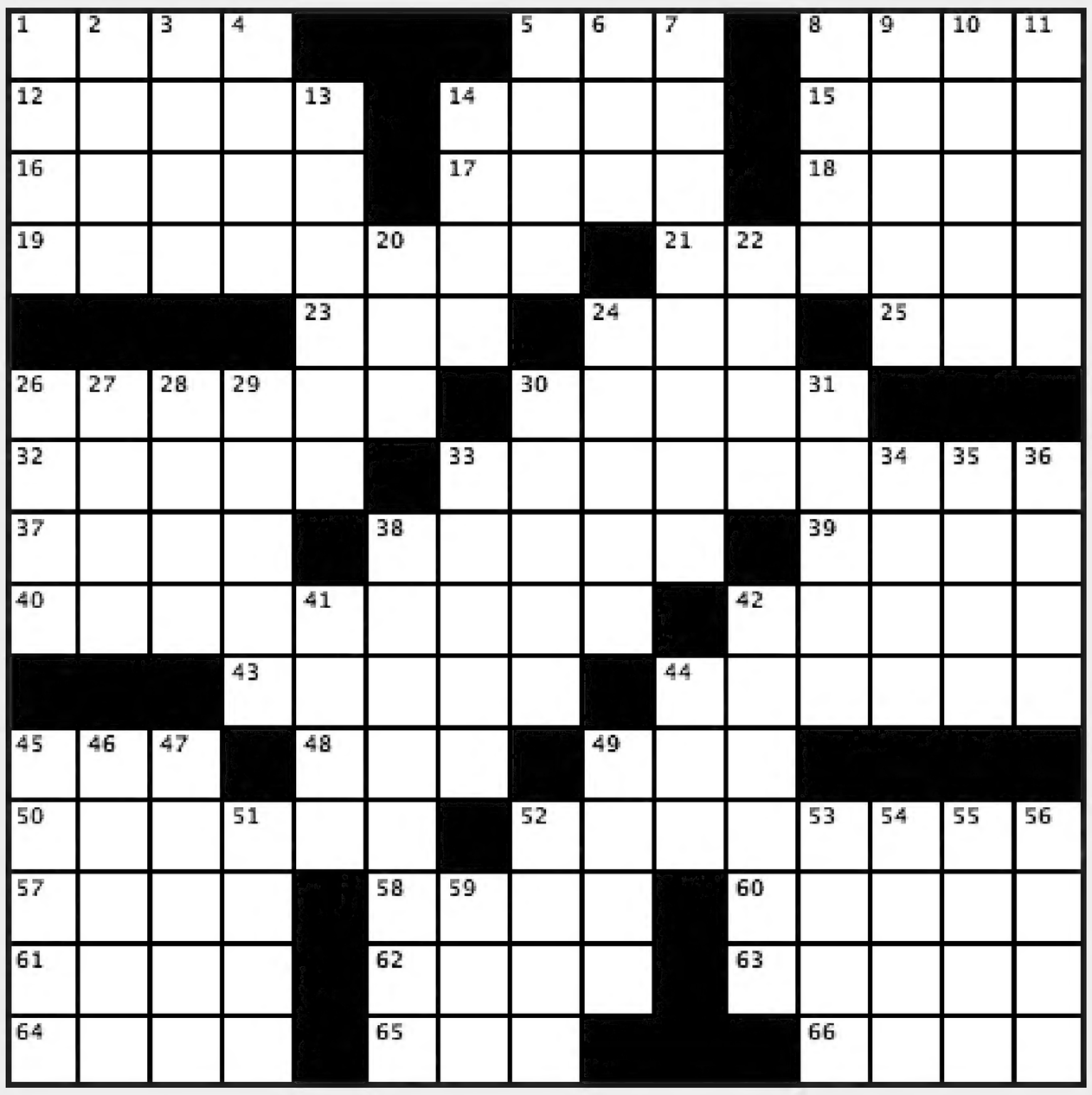


WHALE AND DIVER by Andrew Cowie



crossword

Puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com Used with permission.



Across

1. Filth
5. Artful
8. Soprano Gluck
12. Cop ____
14. Cancun coin
15. London jail
16. Hackneyed
17. Language of Pakistan
18. Cornerstone abbr.
19. Consist of
21. Prepare to eat, in a way
23. Classified items
24. Bingo!
25. Leb. neighbor
26. French form of kick boxing
30. Actress Woodard
32. Beethoven dedicatee
33. Act of impelling
37. Cover
38. _____ and the Night Visitors
39. Emaciated
40. Disease of rabbits
42. Gravy, for one
43. Prehistoric chisellike tool
44. Beginning
45. Attorney's org.
48. Spar
49. Dada pioneer
50. Bog
52. Astonishment
57. Against
58. Civil disturbance
60. Tall and thin
61. Parody
62. Buck follower
63. First name in cosmetics
64. Achy
65. Mohawk-sporting actor
66. Makes a row?

Down

1. Not fem.
2. As far as
3. A type of bake
4. Seaweed
5. Shrivelled, without moisture
6. Acid
7. Young
8. "A Death in the Family" author
9. Wears well
10. Like an unprotected sweater?
11. Tree of the birch family
13. Add fizz
14. Cat
20. Chemical ending
22. British nobleman
24. A, as in Athens
26. Denomination
27. Baseball family name
28. Antidote holder, maybe
29. Take ___ at (try)
30. At full speed
31. Convocation of witches
33. Mingle
34. Markers
35. A single time
36. Russian no
38. Airmail letter
41. Bumpkin
42. Flexible
44. Bruins great Bobby
45. Accumulate
46. Swindle
47. Moving
49. Car
51. Bird of prey
52. Smoke deposit
53. Impetuous
54. A big fan of
55. ____-Ball
56. Baby blues
59. Discount rack abbr.

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EMPLOYMENT PART TIME

Do you love working with children? Our out-of-school child care - just 3 blocks from campus! - is hiring. Various shifts are available immediately. Contact us at windsorparkafterschool@shaw.ca or 780-439-1456.

Gymnastics & Swim Instructors Wanted! Childrens sport programs at Kinsmen & Terwillegar offered evenings & Saturday mornings for spring, full time for weekday summer camps. Superior wages, contact Taunya 780-444-7300 or swimgym@telusplanet.net.

$20/hr. Nightlife events poster is looking for a student to work every other weekend for approximately 4 hours delivering posters and brochures to specific destinations. A vehicle is required. Knowledge of Edmonton is a significant help. You are reliable, efficient, work well independently and have good communication skills. 780-455-7444 or Denise@NightlifePoster.com.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH



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THE public HOUSE

WEDNESDAY INDUSTRY NIGHT

BRAND SPANKIN' NEW

$3.00 DRINKS

- AND -

$4.00 SHOTS

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